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PLO CHAIRMAN 'ARAFAT INTERVIEWED BY NOVOSTI

NC052005 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 1655 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

["Text" of undated interview given by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Soviet News Agency NOVOSTI, published 5 February; place not specified--read by announcer]

[Text] Question: What were the most important questions discussed at the 14th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and what is their importance in relation to the development of the resistance movement?

Answer: At the 14th session of the PNC--the session of martyr Houari Boumediene--we discussed various basic and important questions regarding the consolidation and development of our struggle, particularly at this extremely important phase in the history of our struggle and the Arab struggle in general. The discussions also dealt with the political situation arising from the outcome of the Camp David conference--the imperialist U.S.-Zionist plot with As-Sadat, who approved it, thereby ignoring all the interests of the Arab nation, the Palestinian people and even the Egyptian people. The PNC appraised the Iranian people's revolution and affirmed the support of the Palestinian revolution and people for it. The PNC also appraised the normal and strong relations between the socialist bloc led by the friendly Soviet Union and the Palestinian people. The council valued highly the support and aid our people are receiving from these honest friends. The council also appraised the support of our friends in the nonalined movement, the African states, the Islamic states and other friendly states.

Question: How do you assess the current situation in the Middle East in relation to the consolidation of the anti-imperialist front and the imperialist stands after the Baghdad summit?

Answer: I will answer both questions since they are linked. After President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, the attempts to conclude a separate agreement with Israel at the expense of the Arab nation under the auspices of the United States and under the U.S.-Israeli terms, it became apparent that the strategic power in the area was unbalanced, particularly since President as-Sadat bowed to the United States. The United States used its pressure to gradually exclude Egypt from the balance of power in the area and from the Arab power. As-Sadat now finds himself faced with Article VI of the Camp David agreement, which gives the Israeli-Egyptian agreement priority over other Arab agreements. What does this mean? It means that Egypt will finally be excluded from the present balance of power in time of peace and war between the Arabs and Israel. This is a most dangerous situation. This is what we mean by saying that the strategic power has become unblanaced. The conferences of steadfastness and confrontation in Tripoli, Algiers and Damascus were very important steps toward restoring the balance of power at the Arab and international level, particularly through further coordination with our friends in the socialist bloc led by the friendly Soviet Union. The Baghdad summit conference and the Iraqi-Syrian Joint Charter for National Action were a further step toward restoring the balance of power as outlined by the conferences of steadfastness and confrontation, affirming the necessity of maintaining the role of steadfastness and confrontation. At the same time, the Syrian-Iraqi accord and the Palestinian revolution continued their consolidation to become a vanguard which will compensate for Egypt's withdrawal from the battle.

Hence, it can be clearly said that the Baghdad summit, the Syrian-Iraqi accord, the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the increased coordination with the socialist bloc contribute toward the consolidation of the anti-imperialist front in the area. It exposes the dangerous plot hatched at Camp David by Israel and As-Sadat under the auspices of the United States. It calls on the national, pan-Arab and progressive forces to confront all these plots and to resist them at all levels.

Question: How have events in Iran affected the situation in the Middle East?

Answer: Let me tell you this: Our position on the people's revolution in Iran has been clear since the very beginning. We believe that current events in Iran are a heavy blow to world imperialism led by the United States. The United States supported the shah of Iran and supplied him with an alarming arms arsenal to make Iran a strike force and the most important link in the chain of U.S. defense in NATO and other suspect U.S. pacts. Hence, the people's revolution in Iran, led by Imam Khomeyni, will affect the total situation in the Near East and even several situations in other areas.

Question: It was believed recently that imperialist and Zionist tactics in the area changed. What is your view?

Answer: We have now before us two clear examples of imperialist and Zionist tactics in Lebanon and Egypt. The two serve the same purpose which imperialism and Zionism are seeking to achieve--domination over the whole area and its oil resources. Therefore, Zionist and imperialist efforts are rearranging the situation in order to secure Israel's stability and its expansionist ambitions. Imperialism and its lackeys have kindled the civil war in Lebanon under a sectarian slogan in an attempt to partition Lebanon and to divide it into ministates that can be easily dominated. Imperialism, represented by the United States and Israel, sought in Egypt to make As-Sadat retreat by offering him enticements in order to control him and subsequently to deprive him of his steadfastness, exclude him from the fateful struggle between the Arab nation and Israel and make him join the new Israeli-Egyptian alliance which the United States is seeking to achieve. The Egyptian people have fallen into the imperialist-Zionist trap. It is not important whether the Egyptian regime is acting with awareness. What is important is that it has secured what imperialism and Zionism wanted by excluding Egypt from the battle, even if temporarily. It has also intensified the plot by pressuring the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory, terrorizing them and attacking the democratic and progressive forces in the area. These are the tactics clearly followed by imperialism in the area. They are presently being put to the test since the Arab and Lebanese masses, particularly the Palestinian revolution and the national forces, are firmly resisting such tactics.

Question: What are the current tasks of the Palestinian resistance?

Answer: There is no doubt that we are passing through a delicate and decisive phase that demands increased vigilance to confront the U.S.-Zionist plans undertaken by the United States to control the area, particularly the plans drawn up at Camp David, at Blair House and at other suspect conferences.

Therefore, the Executive Committee is called upon at this phase, particularly at the Palestinian level among our people inside the occupied homeland and outside it, at the Arab level and at the international level, especially among friends in the socialist bloc led by the friendly Soviet Union. We also have before us political and information campaigns in various fields to foil the U.S.-Zionist plans agreed upon with As-Sadat, whether for autonomy in the occupied territory or for axes that the United States is attempting to create against the Arab progressive democratic and national forces.

PALESTINIAN FORCES ARREST KILLERS OF SIDON OFFICIAL

JN031739 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] The Palestinian revolution forces yesterday were able to arrest the criminal elements yesterday that killed martyr 'Aziz al-Baba, official in charge of financial affairs in the Sidon municipality, on 31 January, and stole about 100,000 Lebanese pounds. Al-Baba had obtained the money from the Central Bank to pay the salaries of those working in the municipality.

Lt Col Al-Haj Isma'il, commander of the joint forces in the south, had informed brother Abu 'Ammar about the situation in Sidon. Abu 'Ammar then issued immediate orders for the arrest of those responsible and called for putting an end to such inhuman crimes, aimed at harming the citizens and security.

'ARAFAT CABLES ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS ON ISRAELI MEASURES

JN031726 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar sent cables last night to Mr (Karim Jai), secretary general of the Islamic Conference and to Shaykh Muhammad al-Hartman, president of the Islamic World Organization, on violations by the racist Zionist enemy occupation authorities of the Ibrahimi shrine in Hebron, in the West Bank.

Brother Abu 'Ammar demanded rapid measures both in the Muslim world and on the international level to put an end to the continued violations of Muslim holy places by the Zionist occupation authorities, which are in line with a premeditated and well-planned plot to wipe out the Arab, Muslim and Palestinian character.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONVENES UNDER 'ARAFAT

JN060701 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee was convened last night under brother commander Abu 'Ammar. The Central Committee discussed current developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. The committee adopted several important resolutions in this regard and decided to dispatch delegations to several fraternal and friendly countries.

PLO OFFICE DIRECTOR BRIEFS UAE MINISTER ON PNC SESSION

JN041411 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1320 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 4 February--Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Ribhi 'Awad, director of the PLO office in the UAE.

In a statement following the meeting, 'Awad said that he briefed the minister on the results of the last session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] in Damascus, particularly the council's decision on the PLO's unified political, organizational and financial program and the arrival at a unified formula for Palestinian national unity. He added that the discussion touched on the situation in Lebanon and the escalation of armed struggle inside the occupied homeland.

VOP REPORTS ISRAELI COMMUNISTS' CABLE OF SUPPORT TO PNC

JN032016 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 1650 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council [PNC], which recently held its 14th session in Damascus, has received a cable of support from the RAKAH Party signed by Meir Wilner, secretary general of the communist party of Israel. The cable stresses that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to establish their independent national state.

The cable arrived at the PNC chairman's office after the end of the 14th PNC session.

The Zionist paper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, in an attempt to sow discord between the PLO and the RAKAH Party, last week published a new item which said that the PNC ignored the RAKAH cable and that the cable was not read during the PNC meetings. The cable was not even acknowledged, the paper alleged.

To make the truth known, RAKAH spokesman, Comrade ('Ozi Ornestein), made a statement on Sunday about the cable of greetings sent by the party to the PNC. The statement says:

The communist party of Israel, RAKAH, sent a cable of greetings to the PNC session recently held in Damascus. The cable was signed by Comrade Meir Wilner, secretary general of the party. In the cable of greetings, the communist party of Israel and the Democratic Front for Peace gave the party's views on the solution to the Middle East problem--a solution which enjoys the support of most countries of the anti-imperialist forces and of the world's peace-loving people.

The cable said: For the sake of a just and comprehensive peace in the region, the communist party of Israel rejects the Camp David agreements which ignore the roots of the dispute in the region and which hinder the realization of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Our party fights for a just and lasting peace based on Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and on the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people to establish their independent state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The cable also said: Our party supports the international guarantees for a comprehensive peace agreement offered by the Soviet Union, the United States and other countries so as to insure the security and territorial integrity of all the states in the region. The Geneva peace conference must be held under UN auspices and under the chairmanship of the USSR and the United States with the participation of all sides, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. The cable said that the whole region will enjoy peace and freedom when the independent Palestinian state is established.

BAGHDAD VOP ASSAILS PROSETTLEMENT PALESTINIANS

JN021946 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 2 Feb 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] It has become amply clear that the Palestinian line of settlement has won a new round at the expense of the people, the fighters' sacrifices and the people's nationalist and democratic forces. This pleases the masters of the prosettlement Palestinians in reactionary circles and places important, new responsibilities before the nationalist forces.

Naturally, the settlement line has been mainly relying on unlimited reactionary support and the tactical errors of the nationalist forces. We cannot avoid the dangers of what has happened merely by asking questions and searching for causes. We must wage the battle for democracy, for the correct political line and a united Palestinian decision. However, we must resort to new methods of action, exact approaches and deeper alliances. This demands first and foremost a campaign for expanding the nationalist stand rejecting all sorts of settlement and hegemony and all forms of dealing with the people by taking one group of people at a time. It also demands blaming the Palestinian line of settlement for the weakening of the resistance groups in forging a minimum national Palestinian unity.

The allegations of the Palestinian settlement line should be exposed and their maneuvers and moves revealed before the Arab liberation movement and the international progressive forces. Old tactics must be revised and mistakes avoided.

The importance of the moves in these directions are demanded by general national interests. The moves are demanded by our commitment to the will of our people and to protecting that will from being distorted or forged. It is not true that our people have been unanimous in expelling prominent resistance groups from positions of leading the national action. It is not true that our people have been unanimous in succumbing to the settlement line concerning the Palestinian political program and its implementation.

When issues are very threatening to the national will and when some persons monopolize the arena of national action, the rules which determine membership will not represent the will of our people and the results derived from these rules will contribute to the destruction of the achievements of the revolution and the masses during the armed revolution.

BAHRAIN

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

JN031454 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1408 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 3 February--Kerel Beyen, secretary of state for foreign economic affairs in the Netherlands, arrived in Manama today from Doha on a 2-day visit to Bahrain. During his visit, he will hold talks with Bahraini Minister of Commerce and Agriculture Habib Muhammad al-Qasim on bilateral relations, particularly on trade and economic relations and means of promoting them.

The minister will attend tomorrow's opening of the floating Dutch exhibition.

Received by Amir

JN041036 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0935 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 4 February--His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received here today Kerel Beyen, Netherlands secretary of state for foreign economic affairs who is visiting Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by Habib al-Qasim, Bahraini minister of commerce and agriculture, and Ahmad Hubayl, director of the trade department.

Concludes Visit

JN041522 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1450 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 4 February--Kerel Beyen, Netherland's secretary of state for foreign economic affairs, and the accompanying delegation left here this evening for Saudi Arabia following a 2 day visit to Bahrain. In a predeparture statement he made to the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Kerel Beyen said that while in Manama he met with Habib al-Qasim, the Bahraini minister of commerce and agriculture, with whom he exchanged views on commercial and economic relations and discussed means of further developing bilateral cooperation. While here, Kerel Beyen also visited the Netherlands barge currently in Bahrain. This barge forms a floating Netherlands exhibition for the purpose of acquainting the Bahraini people with the most advanced industrial products of the Netherlands.

KUWAIT

CROWN PRINCE CALLS ON YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT TITO

LD021250 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Crown Prince and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, called at 1000 today on President Marshal Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, at his residence at As-Salam Palace. The meeting was attended by the head of the honor mission and Minister of Finance 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi.

Tito Tours City

LD021252 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, and his delegation paid a visit to the towers in Kuwait at about 1100 today. The notable guest was accompanied by the head of the honor mission and Minister of Finance 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi.

Bilateral Talks Held

LD031250 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

[Text] His Excellency Marshal Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, visited his highness the amir at As-Sayif Palace at 1000 today, where official talks were held. The Yugoslav side was led by President Marshal Josip Bros Tito and the Kuwaiti side by the amir.

The director of the amir's court said that talks between the great guest and the amir centered on relations between the two friendly countries and means of mutual development. They also dealt with international affairs. The discussions were characterized by a cordial atmosphere marked by understanding and the spirit of friendship.

AMIR, PDRY'S ISMA'IL BEGIN TALKS

LD061006 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, president of the PDRY, who is currently visiting Kuwait, began official talks here today with Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait. The talks, which are taking place in As-Sayif Palace, the official amiri headquarters, are expected to cover bilateral relations and the means of strengthening and developing them. The two heads of state are also expected to discuss current developments in the Middle East crisis and other international issues of mutual interest. Among these latter, they are expected to discuss the situation in Iran and its possible implications for the Arab Gulf region and the Middle East. President Isma'il arrived here last night at the head of a high-level delegation which is now at the second stage of its tour of a number of Arab countries.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES JORDANIAN MAYOR

JN031556 Amman JNA in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 3 February--Today Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as'Sabah received Ma'n Abu Nuwwar, Amman mayor currently visiting Kuwait, with whom he discussed bilateral relations.

U.S. OIL, MONETARY POLICIES IN MIDEAST, IRAN SCORED

LD051304 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Feb--Kuwait's AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM comments today on the U.S. "oil and money game." It says that the Imam Khomeyni's movement in Iran has, among other things, called for the cessation of "lawful looting" of wealth represented by the arms contracts which have squandered billions of dollars of Iranian revenues and left the people to suffer from starvation and deprivation.

The paper adds: "U.S. and Western policy is based on fixed goals: to secure oil from the area and retrieve the money paid for it through investments in the West or through sales of their arms and other luxury products."

After reviewing the Iranian experience in the field of arms purchases, the paper commented on the Arab experience.

It said that Western policy planners have "created several spots of threat and trouble in the Arab area in order to retrieve money through arms sales. Furthermore, Arab assets are being invested in the Western industrial powers, and thus these powers are insured of getting the oil and the money as well."

Whenever the owners of the oil tried to rectify the price of their oil and bring it in line with the prices of the industrial goods they import, the industrial powers used to raise a fuss. The paper expressed its belief that this fussing "was no more than an evil screen intended to detract from the Arabs' international reputation and blame them for the worldwide rise in prices."

The paper affirms the importance of Khomeyni's avowel to terminate arms contracts and transfer the money saved to the actual development of Iran. If this logic were to extend to the Arab oil fields, the paper contends, it will play a full role in Arab development and will help unleash the inherent Arab power in the fight against backwardness as well as the fight against Israel.

The paper adds that this logic will lead to actual control of Arab wealth and consequently the imposition of the Arab presence and Arab free sovereignty over the Arab land, wealth and destiny.

In conclusion, the paper writes that such an attitude is bound to make the U.S. administration "more careful in how it deals with the Arabs and in choosing between them and Israel--indeed, it will force the United States to stop humiliating the Arabs by the Israeli sword it hangs over their necks."

PAPER REPORTS MOVES TO RESTORE PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY

LD041210 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 4 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Feb, KUNA--A local newspaper has cited 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, as having said that contacts are being held to restore parliamentary activity in Kuwait. However, he denied indirectly that such a step is related to the present developments in Iran.

'Abd al-Aziz Husayn told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM that Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, the heir apparent and prime minister, began concerted contacts with a number of Kuwaiti personalities 3 weeks ago in implementation of orders issued by Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah concerning the establishment of a committee for the amendment of the constitution and restoration of parliamentary activity.

The government announced its intention to set up such a committee after the dissolution of the National Assembly at the end of September 1976. The newspaper said that the minister did not wish to name a date for the ending of these contacts, which he said were a continuation of the contacts the amir held when he was heir apparent and before becoming amir in 1977. 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn confirmed that the consultations were not linked with the recent developments in the gulf.

SAUDI ARABIA

IRAQI MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN RIYADH ON VISIT

LD031240 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh--'Izzat Ibrahim, member of the Revolution Command Council and interior minister of the Republic of Iraq, arrived in Riyadh at noon today. He is leading a large delegation that includes senior officials from the Iraqi Interior Ministry on a 6-day visit to the kingdom at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior.

Iraqi Minister's Statement

JN042025 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 4 February--'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member and interior minister, said that an agreement on cooperation between the Iraqi and Saudi Interior Ministries in technical, administrative, scientific, training and border affairs will be signed following its legal formulation. He said the agreement will contribute positively to the security of Iraq and Saudi Arabia and will be to their peoples' benefit.

Ibrahim stressed that the two sides' views were identical on all points discussed. In a statement made here today, Ibrahim said that the Iraqi-Saudi talks today dealt with the events in the Arab area and in Iran.

Ibrahim pointed out that the Arab Gulf area holds a place of extreme interest in international politics and conflict because of its economic and strategic resources.

Ibrahim stressed the importance of building the Arab potential and personality on a sound basis. He said this will protect us from international ambitions.

Ibrahim pointed to the Baghdad summit conference, its results and the Iraqi-Syrian Joint National Action Charter. He said these results are the most important phenomena in building the Arab potential.

Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Ibrahim exchanged speeches earlier at the meeting. Prince Nayif expressed his hope that the visit will achieve its goal of developing relations between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. In his reply, Ibrahim said that for some time Iraq and Saudi Arabia have exerted joint efforts in the Arab nation's interests.

Security Agreement Signed

LD050721 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--A security agreement was signed this evening in Riyadh between Saudi Arabia and Iraq. The agreement was signed by Saudi Minister of the Interior His Royal Highness Nayif ibn 'Abdal'-Aziz and Iraqi Minister of the Interior and member of the Council of the Revolution Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim ad-Duri.

After the signing ceremony, Prince Nayif expressed pleasure at the conclusion of the agreement between the two fraternal countries, adding that it would be for the good of both countries.

He added that the agreement covered such areas as the exchange of experience and cooperation in the field of combating crime, the exchange of information, and the easing of the entry of the citizens in each country in accordance with the laws of each country. The agreement also has an article calling for stipulating conditions for the extradition of criminals.

SNA: FAHD SAYS SAUDI POLICIES REMAIN CONSTANT

LD052050 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1922 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Jidda--The Council of Ministers met at 2000 today under Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister His Royal Highness Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting ended at 2130. After the meeting, Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani told SNA that Prince Fahd spoke about developments in the area, stressing that the kingdom's policy is stable and well known and that it does not change with circumstances. This policy is based on supporting the Arab right and the Palestinian right and on noninterference in the internal affairs of any state.

His highness said that any tendentious criticism against the Kingdom will not divert us from our commitment to our principles or from supporting the Palestinian people in their just struggle to restore their legitimate rights. He added that the main source of the nation's strength is its faith and its adherence to its religion, which is its life.

CROWN PRINCE FAHD TO VISIT U.S. 13-14 MARCH

LD051842 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will visit the United States from 13 to 14 March at the invitation of U.S. President Jimmy Carter. In a communique issued today, the royal court said that His Royal Highness Prince Fahd will continue the dialog with President Jimmy Carter regarding a number of issues within a spirit of strong cooperation and consultation which characterizes the traditional friendly relations between the two countries.

Here is the text of the statement issued by the royal court today:

At the invitation of His Excellency President Jimmy Carter, president of the United States, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, crown prince and deputy prime minister, will pay an official visit to Washington during the period from 13 to 14 March, 1979. During the visit, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency President Jimmy Carter will continue the dialog on a number of issues in the spirit of close cooperation and consultation which characterizes the relations of traditional friendship that links the two countries.

RIYADH COMMENTS ON SUPERPOWER CONFLICT IN MIDEAST

LD051840 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] It must be admitted that the attempts by the countries of the Middle East to keep themselves out of the blazing spheres of global conflicts have failed to achieve the desired success.

On the contrary, the superpowers have in recent years concentrated their efforts on imposing a new reality depicting their determination to expand at the expense of this area, on exercising all sorts of domination over its peoples and countries and on achieving through all forms of hegemony many of their objectives and designs.

This explains the panic that reigns over the two camps and proves the wide gap that separates them, so much so that neither of them trusts the intentions of the other. Hence, cooperative agreement on arms limitation is bound to be coupled with the bolstering of their positions and the guaranteeing of the safety of each of them from the other at the expense of the oil of the area because of its strategic importance.

This means that this part of the world will witness no stability as long as the superpowers continue to look upon it as one of the high security matters affecting them in terms of containment and use.

These facts have come to light amid the tensions that have engulfed the area after the African Continent had undergone a horrible, bloody conflict whose aftermaths are still continuing despite the changing of loyalties in Africa and their redivision between the two major camps, and after the Communist camp has succeeded in extending its influence and imposing its ideological, political and economic hegemony there at a time when the United States seems as though it cares nothing about its friends or about what the Soviets have been achieving for themselves in more than just one spot. [passage indistinct]

This state of affairs increases the responsibilities of the Arab and Islamic leaders in particular and increases their belief in the sublime objectives and increases their attachment to the essence of the nation and its destiny.

It is certain that the road to this new reality begins with ending bloodshed and discussing the pending issues and working sincerely to contain all conflicts.

RIYADH COMMENTS ON COMPOSITION OF SAUDI FOREIGN POLICY

LD051128 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Once again we recall an important question imposed by events: What governs Saudi foreign policy and decides its directions? We repeat the question while comprehending with great satisfaction that our language is understandable at the Arab, Islamic and international levels. We, as we have said more than once, do not speak with a faint voice; we do not deal with events and attitudes with ambiguity; and we do not act in keeping with passing changes. If this is so, then why do some people unjustly attack us and why do others fail to understand our language? What is more, why are they trying to move in illusive circles, wrongly assuming that their readings of attitudes has placed in their hands new facts that require a review of strategies that are of primary importance? Once again I return to the old and yet new question: What governs our foreign policy and what decides its course?

Many new developments in the Middle East have confirmed that all that the kingdom has warned against has happened and that what it is warning against requires a quick review of all our calculations in order to prevent it from also happening.

That which is the opinion of some was extreme caution on our part has become a required course in reading the possibilities of the future and a conscious vision, whose far-reaching repercussions many friends and brothers previously failed to comprehend. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which remains eager to deal with the various events with caution, fully comprehends that the Arab and Islamic nation is in dire need at present to get rid of the state of relaxation and work quickly to avoid any negative outcome that may result from placing one's complete trust in others or from fully relying on any forces or anything other than the characteristics and ideals of this nation.

It is no coincidence for our country to warmly welcome any good initiative aimed at the consolidation of Arab unity or its exploitation, and it is not by chance that our country serves as an axis for togetherness and a support for unified attitudes and opinions and constructive activities. This is not surprising because the kingdom, which has opened its heart to all brothers and friends, shall never be a side in any dispute or an element in confrontation between forces of the nation. One reason is that it continues to be and shall remain the [words indistinct] point and this nation's final axis of hope for the sun of harmony to shine on all its parts and for all disputes to end forever.

The shoulders which have borne much are still strong. We will continue to work for the entire nation and we will not allow hatred to enter it. We are ready to extend our hand at any moment to shake hands and open our arms to embrace all those who meet us or kept away from us, because we believe that a big heart should remain big and that a wide embrace has room for all.

This is a fact, and another fact is that any sincere work by an Arab or an Islamic state should be approved, welcomed and joined. At a time when we call for more sincere intentions, at a time when we anxiously await the moment when we will all sit together to sign the broad guidelines of a comprehensive Arab-Islamic work and to draw up a strategy for the great future struggle on the basis of absolute sincerity and complete awareness of all that events have highlighted and confirmed, we see at this time the need in our nation for true unity and integration, and this cannot come about in the absence of reasonable degrees of collective stability and joint security plans--the need for which was expressed by His Royal Highness Amir Nayif ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, interior minister, and the Iraqi interior minister.

UAE

TRANSFER OF U.S. EQUIPMENT FROM IRAN TO UAE DENIED

JN031350 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 February--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid, UAE minister of information and culture, today denied a report published by a U.S. news agency that U.S. observation equipment has been moved from Iran to Jabal 'Ali in the UAE.

The minister categorically denied this information, saying it is completely groundless.

YEMEN--PDRY

QNA: PRIME MINISTER MEETS USSR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL

NC051937 Doha QNA in Arabic 1842 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Aden, 5 February--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY prime minister and deputy chairman of the People's Supreme Council Presidium, today met with Oleg Grinevskiy, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Near Eastern Countries Department, who is currently visiting Aden as part of a tour of a number of Arab countries.

Aden radio reported that the two sides reviewed relations of cooperation between the two countries and ways to develop these relations. They also discussed other topics, especially the current situation in the Middle East.

The Soviet official has already visited Jordan, Iraq and Kuwait.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT GIVES INTERVIEW TO LEBANESE DAILY AL-ANWAR

JN042123 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

["Text" of interview given by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Mustafa Kharbush, director of the Arab Relations Department at the Dar as-Sayyad Press Foundation in Beirut, published in the Beirut daily AL-ANWAR; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: World news agencies have recently reported that the YAR has constructed fortifications on its Red Sea islands to defend them against possible Israeli aggression. Is this true, and are you coordinating with any other Arab country in this respect?

Answer: The recent world news agencies' reports about our building fortifications in the YAR Red Sea islands are not true. Moreover, there has been no change in the Yemeni positions in Bab el-Mandab, which we established 4 years ago. We have not even reinforced our forces in those positions because we are not an aggressive country and harbor no ill intentions toward anyone. The YAR does not wish to jeopardize international navigation in this strait. We consider our security to be part of the Arab homeland's security and our capabilities to be an extension of the Arab countries' capabilities generally.

Question: Where does the YAR stand regarding the Arab contradiction? Specifically, how would you define the YAR's current role and how can you reconcile your previous opposition to President as-Sadat's initiative with your later support for him?

Answer: The YAR has always tried to heal the rift and to restore Arab solidarity, because it has always held that Arab solidarity will further consolidate the Arab stand and will offer better opportunities to achieve the desired Arab goals. We have supported no initiative and do not encourage any attempt to disintegrate the Arab ranks. The YAR Government issued a statement at that time stressing that the Camp David agreements do not accord with legitimate Arab rights in Palestine, Golan and Sinai. We still hold to that statement and stress that there has been no contradiction in our stand. This alleged contradiction has arisen due to certain circles, which report false news about YAR policy.

Question: There are reports about several attempts to drag your country into the whirl of international differences on the Red Sea. Where does the YAR stand regarding this issue?

Answer: We firmly refuse to be dragged into any camp struggling for power domination. We reiterate our call for keeping the Red Sea free of all world crises and empty of all foreign fleets, including the super powers' fleets, so that it can continue to be a stable, free waterway serving both international navigation and the Red Sea littoral countries.

Question: In more than one of your recent speeches you underlined the fact that recent events in both Yemens are part of a hostile plot against the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab homeland's wealth. Could you elaborate on this point?

Answer: There is no doubt that the Arabian Peninsula is one of the wealthiest parts of the world, due particularly to its oil resources. The sporadic events in our area strongly indicate that the superpowers are trying to interfere in the area. Therefore, this area's peoples and governments should coordinate and cooperate in serving the peoples' prosperity and in the interest of the joint Arab issues. This will eventually reduce the unilateral dependence of the area's governments on any kind of foreign protection and aid. Thus, we believe that this area's independence, its defense against any kind of ideological invasion, and the establishment of a formula for joint political and security cooperation is the only way to keep it free from foreign effects.

Question: What is the appropriate solution for the Middle East problem and what is the YAR's activity in this regard?

Answer: We see no possible solution for the Middle East problem that does not include the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in establishing their state in their own land and the restoration of the occupied Arab territories in Sinai, the Golan Heights, Jerusalem and the West Bank. This stand is in harmony with the Arab summits' resolutions. The YAR, therefore, is working within this framework and accordingly adheres to all our principal commitments on this basic Arab issue.

Question: How does the YAR regard the divided Arab stand on the Ethiopian-Somali conflict in the African Horn?

Answer: The YAR believes in the peoples' right to self-determination. The YAR has always held that goodneighborliness principles can solve all differences quietly and peacefully. This was also Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre's stand. Moreover, we have recently made efforts to mediate between the two countries, taking into consideration our good relations with our neighbors and adhering to our pan-Arab commitments toward our Somali brothers. We sincerely hope that our efforts will succeed.

Question: How serious is the Israeli threat in the Red Sea, and do you favor forming a joint Arab army to defend this area? What are your future expectations regarding regional and international conflicts?

Answer: We are not police assigned to defend and protect the Red Sea; however, we will not remain silent in the face of Israeli aggression. We do not seriously consider the formation of a joint Arab army to defend the Red Sea because such a proposal is not practical.

Meanwhile, there is the joint Arab defense pact, which once implemented can defend several of our impending Arab issues and can secure stability and security for the Red Sea littoral Arab countries. We should spare no effort to keep ourselves free from all kinds of regional or international conflict and to prevent any foreign interference, which would definitely be at the expense of our nation's interests.

Question: Some PDRY officials are saying that the YAR suffers from instability and claim that there are several tribes opposing the regime. How would you respond to such claims and how would you describe the situation in your country?

Answer: You are here today, in the YAR, and there is no doubt that you have personally felt, through your contacts in and tours of our country, the stability the YAR enjoys. I say that the PDRY rulers have lost their identity. They have become tools serving foreign strategies. It is the southern sector of the homeland that really suffers from instability. Evidence of this is that more than half of the population have left their homes. One half million of the southern Yemen people have fled to the YAR and are living here permanently with their families. They are dreaming of the day when the southern sector of the homeland will be liberated from the regime of domination, conspiracy and foreign agentry. Our situation in the YAR needs no further confirmation or elaboration. We enjoy stability here and are moving forward. We have new projects for developing production and services. Therefore, we are looking forward to a better tomorrow.

Question: Was your recent visit to Abu Dhabi and Muscat intended to heal the rift between those two fraternal countries, particularly in light of the reported border disputes between the UAE and Oman, or was your visit an attempt to obtain financial aid?

Answer: My visits to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Oman fall within the framework of the YAR's deep interest in further consolidating its relations with those countries. Of course, we are receiving continuous financial aid from our Saudi brothers and from the fraternal UAE. There is also continuous coordination and cooperation with our brothers in Oman. Neither the YAR nor I have any role in healing the rift between Abu Dhabi and Muscat, as those two fraternal countries are facing no differences. The two political leaderships of the UAE and Oman were able to solve the temporary disagreement on the borders.

MINISTER SAYS SAN'A' UNAFFECTED BY IRAN EVENTS

LD051024 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 5 February--YAR Information Minister Isma'il al-Kabsi [name and title as received] has declared in a statement to Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH published here today that his country will not be affected by the events in Iran, because "it adheres to Islam and pursues a democratic rule." He said: "Yemen has not been affected and will not be affected by imperial Iran or by what is happening in it now."

Al-Kabsi denied that his country has supported the Camp David accords, saying that it only supports a comprehensive and just solution of the Middle East crisis. The best proof of this, he added, is that it attended the Baghdad Arab summit conference last November and the recent Arab information ministers' conference.

He denied that his country receives any military support from Egypt and said that Yemen "enjoys stability and has a strong army" that is capable of performing its duty at any time without any support.

He accused the PDRY of impeding the efforts to unify both parts of Yemen. However, he expressed his confidence that "unity will inevitably come despite the current difficulties."

He praised YAR-Kuwaiti relations and Kuwait's help in the development of the YAR.

IRAQ'S REQUEST TO MOVE ECWA HEADQUARTERS SUPPORTED

JN011026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1014 GMT 1 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] San'a', 1 February--The YAR has expressed its support of the Iraqi proposal to transfer the Economic Commission for West Asia [ECWA] headquarters to Baghdad.

In a statement to the press, YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj said that the YAR Government has conveyed its approval and support of transferring the ECWA headquarters to Baghdad to the UN secretary general.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE COMMENTS ON BEGIN'S STATEMENTS

NC060618 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2308 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 February--A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin has ignored several facts in recent statements in which he alleged that the purpose of the Camp David agreements and talks was the conclusion of an agreement between Egypt and Israel. The source said that the Camp David agreements have given the Palestinian problem its true and major importance in the comprehensive settlement. The first document, the framework for a comprehensive peace, laid the main bases for solving the Palestinian problem and provided that Egypt, Israel, Jordan and representatives of the Palestinian people shall participate in talks for solving the Palestinian problem in all its aspects. Then came the provisions of the second agreement between Egypt and Israel, which is considered a part of the framework for a comprehensive peace. The source added that the idea of a linkage between a peace agreement and a solution of the Palestinian problem is very clear. The two agreements were signed at the same time. Moreover, the agreement on the settlement of the Palestinian problem contained a timetable defining the steps for the establishment of self-rule, the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, the abolition of the military government and the right of the Palestinian people to determine their future after 5 years. The source said that a solution of the Palestinian problem should precede the Egyptian-Israeli agreement and the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. This is because it is inconceivable that diplomatic relations can be established at a time when Israel is establishing settlements, is denying the Palestinian people their rights, and is exercising arbitrary measures in the West Bank and Gaza. The source said: Egypt demands that a conclusion of comprehensive peace should be the basis for a solution of the Middle East problem by giving the Palestinian problem its proper precedence and importance as the basis and crux of the Middle East problem.

MINISTER OF STATE RECEIVES FRENCH FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

NC051531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1332 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 February--Today Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met the French legislative delegation representing the French-Egyptian friendship society. During the meeting, Dr Ghali reviewed the various aspects of the Middle East issue, particularly in light of the developments that followed the Egyptian peace initiative and the current contacts aimed at resuming the negotiations to attain a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. During this meeting, the Egyptian minister affirmed Egypt's principled position, which insists on a comprehensive solution and calls for linking the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement with the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Discussions during the meeting also dealt with the strong relations between Egypt and France and with ways to consolidate these relations in various fields.

AS-SADAT TO HOST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOOD CONFERENCE

NC030703 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 3 Feb 79 NC

[Text] It has been decided to convene the international youth conference for food and development on 24 March under the patronage of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. The conferees will discuss the subject of food and means to develop it in view of the fact that it is one of the rights of man under the umbrella of a new international economic system. Some world leaders are expected to sponsor the conference.

HAMMADI, YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER BEGIN TALKS

JN051157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Feb--Iraq and Yugoslavia have again condemned Zionism's aggressive policy which constitutes a threat to the stability and security of the Arab region and the world at large.

This came in the official talks which began here today between the delegations of the two countries headed by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and his Yugoslav counterpart, Josip Vrhovec.

Both sides stressed the important role being played by the nonalined movement and the need to develop this role into a constructive means not only for their countries but also the entire international community.

The two sides also exchanged viewpoints on the next nonalined summit conference which will be held in Havana and ways to render it a success.

The two sides expressed their great satisfaction with the existing developing relations between their two countries and stressed the importance of developing them further. They also reviewed international relations and the situation in the Arab region.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry; Husayn Hayyawi, Iraqi ambassador in Belgrade; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials. They were attended on the Yugoslav side by Budimar Loncar, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, and Zivco Mucalov, Yugoslav ambassador in Baghdad.

IRAQ, YUGOSLAVIA SIGN MINUTES OF JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

JN052102 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb--Minutes of the Iraqi-Yugoslav joint committee for economic and technical cooperation were signed here this evening. 'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and minister of planning, signed for Iraq while Andrej Marinc, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, signed for Yugoslavia.

In a speech following the signing ceremony, the RCC member affirmed that the future will witness further important steps to bolster friendly and cooperative relations between Iraq and Yugoslavia in the service of nonalinement. He added that what has been accomplished at the committee meetings is an important step on the road to developing relations between the two friendly countries.

In his reply, Mr Marinc hailed the efforts exerted by both sides at the meetings to attain positive results in strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between the two friendly peoples and countries.

The minutes deal with future bilateral cooperation and means of strengthening this cooperation in mutual interests and of developing cooperation in implementing economic development projects, in the economic sectors, in economic planning and in trade, technical and technological exchange.

The minutes stipulate the formation of three committees: the economic cooperation committee for implementation of development projects; the trade cooperation committee; and the technical and scientific cooperation committee. They also stipulate the formation of joint subcommittes in the fields of industry, agriculture, transport, communications, building and utilities, tourism, housing, planning, technical and oil cooperation, and petrochemicals.

The minutes further stipulate that the next meeting of the Iraqi-Yugoslav joint committee will be held in the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade later this year, to follow up on the implementation of this session's decisions.

The minutes also deal with the provisions of previous committee meetings' minutes and assess the scope of bilateral cooperation in implementing projects and in scientific, technical and technological exchange.

FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS ON UNITY WITH SYRIA

JN051510 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 5 Feb--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has said that Zionism and the colonialist countries will try to raise problems for the unified state of Iraq and Syria. Hammadi expected that the situation in Lebanon, particularly in southern Lebanon, will be employed as a means of exhausting this state, especially as one of the countries of this new state--meaning Syria--has well-known commitments toward Lebanon.

In a statement published here today in the AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI magazine, Dr Hammadi points out that Iraq and Syria will make joint large-scale efforts at the Arab and international levels to explain the dimensions of their steps toward unification.

Dr Hammadi described the Iraqi-Syrian unity as the most important thing that could possibly take place in support of the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation. He stressed that the two countries are not prompted to achieve unity by political or tactical incentives, but by principled incentives, namely the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's faith in unity.

Hammadi said that we view the Syrian-Iraqi rapproachment, which is open to every Arab country, as the starting point for Arab unity. He pointed out that progress toward unification between Iraq and Syria has come a long way thus far. He said that the next stage will be the two parties' unification and the definition of an appropriate constitutional formula for the state's structure.

Dr Hammadi said that we support Arab solidarity based on absolute rejection of the Camp David agreements. He said that the Baghdad summit resolutions left the door open for Egypt, if it declares its rejection of the agreement.

On the situation in Iran, Dr Hammadi said that Iraq desires stability for Iran. He said that Iraq's policy is based on mutual respect of sovereignty and borders.

EMBASSY PROTESTS ARREST OF DIPLOMAT IN STOCKHOLM

JN052053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2038 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Stockholm, 5 Feb--The Iraqi Embassy in Stockholm today submitted a protest memo to the Swedish Foreign Ministry demanding the release of the Iraqi diplomat who was arrested by the Swedish police today.

In its memo, the embassy said that the arrested diplomat did not carry out an unfriendly act but came to Stockholm for administrative purposes and to audit the embassy accounts at the end of the fiscal year.

The embassy affirmed in its memo that the diplomat's arrest and the intention to deport three Iraqi Embassy employees is a blatant act against the embassy and its employees.

The Swedish authorities had claimed that the arrested Iraqi diplomat was in contact with a high-ranking Swedish police officer.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR RECEIVES AEUC'S QADDURI 3 FEB

JN031400 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 3 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Feb--This morning President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr received Dr Fakhri Qadduri, secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council [AEUC].

Dr Qadduri expressed his thanks for and appreciation of the continuous support Iraq has been giving the AEUC.

Dr Qadduri is the second AEUC secretary general to be deported by the As-Sadat authorities. The first was Dr 'Abd al-'Al as-Sakban.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES SUDANESE CHIEF OF STAFF

JN051232 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, received here today Staff Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, chief of staff of the fraternal Sudanese Armed Forces, and the accompanying delegation visiting to Iraq. The meeting was attended by the general chief of staff of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR MALAYSIA

JN061052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb--An Iraqi delegation led by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi left Baghdad this morning on its way to Kuala Lumpur on a 4-day visit to Malaysia.

Dr Hammadi will hold talks with Malaysian officials on bilateral relations and ways to develop them; and Arab and international issues of mutual interest, particularly those related to the nonalined movement.

Dr Hammadi stated that he will brief Malaysian officials on the major developments in the area especially in the wake of the Iraqi-Syrian Joint Charter for National Action and the convening of the ninth Arab summit conference in Baghdad.

JORDAN TIMES ASSAILS CHURCH REMARKS ON SAUDI ARABIA

JN030714 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 3 Feb 79 p. 2 JN

[Editorial: "Wrong Church, Wrong Pew"]

[Text] When Senator Frank Church acceded recently to the chairmanship of the important U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, it was a clear setback for Arab interests in Washington. A long-time captive of Zionist influence on Congress, and an ambitious Democratic Party presidential aspirant, Senator Church suddenly found himself occupying a useful new platform from which to expound his distorted view of American Middle East policy.

Now, in a speech to a Jewish audience in Florida Mr. Church has outdone himself with a stinging attack on Saudi Arabia, calling that country a "detriment to peace" and warning the Saudis that their "special relationship" with the United States "cannot be a one-way street."

The timing of the speech is nothing if not curious, coming just as the Saudis themselves are reassessing their relationship with the United States in the light of what they see as the growing undependability of America as an ally, as an economic partner, and as a guarantor against sudden changes in the strategic balance in the gulf. If the Saudis are wavering, Mr. Church seems determined to give them the push.

The Saudi rulers might agree with Senator Church that their relationship with the U.S. cannot be a "one-way street"; from their point of view, indeed, it is perhaps time to reverse direction from this cul-de-sac.

Financially, the Saudis have kept a substantial proportion of their oil surpluses in dollars, and have stoutly defended and helped to prop up that currency, when all about them had long since lost faith in American fiscal policy. Because of the dollar's loss of value since 1973, they have watched their oil earnings decline alarmingly in value; where they could have prevailed on their OPEC partners to raise crude oil prices to compensate for these losses, they have instead engineered moderate price rises which have not kept pace with inflation.

As an added vote of confidence in the American system, they have spent billions on importing U.S. technology (often when the comparable European or Japanese technology was not only cheaper but more suitable), and have invested millions more in U.S. industry and real estate (for which they have been branded as greedy interlopers trying to "buy up America"). In recent weeks, they have reluctantly increased their oil production to make up for the reduced flow of oil to America from Iran. And, of course, they continue to wait patiently for the U.S. to adopt a sensible energy policy, while pressing ahead themselves with pioneering research into solar energy.

Politically, for wanting to share responsibility with the U.S. in defending the oilfields of the gulf and the Arabian Peninsula against subversion, they have seen their offer to buy advanced American jet fighters subjected to insulting scrutiny by an ill-informed Congress and a Zionist-influenced press and public ("only 15 minutes supersonic flying time from Tabuk to Tel Aviv"), and recently they have watched with alarm as the U.S. has waffled and wavered in Iran, only to be told now by Senator Church that a similar fate might be in store for Saudi Arabia.

We shall save for another day any comment on Mr Church's insistence that Saudi Arabia is hindering the Camp David peace process. We don't expect he knows much about Jerusalem, or what's happening on the West Bank, or about the extent to which Egypt's day-to-day survival (and, incidentally, that of many other countries, particularly in Africa) depends on Saudi generosity. Such information is probably not contained in the B'nai B'rith information kit from which he derives the inspiration for his public speeches.

PRESS ON UNRWA CUTBACKS, CHANGE IN U.S. ATTITUDE TO ISRAEL

JN041133 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[From the Press Review]

[Text] AD-DUSTUR today comments on actions against Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territory. The paper says: Israel's actions in the occupied territory and UNRWA's decision to reduce its services to the refugees leave no room for doubt that the Palestinians, inside and outside the occupied territory, are the target.

It is no secret that what Israel is doing to the Palestinians and UNRWA's decision to reduce the services form the pincers closing in on this people. Even if we are to assume out of good will that there is no collusion or coordination between Israel and UNRWA, this assumption will not hold water if the main powers, headed by the United States, do not augment UNRWA's finances so it can maintain its services, especially when we know that these services are not up to the minimum level required in today's world.

It is time we reminded everyone that UNRWA must not be used as a political pressure weapon. It also is time the international community took immediate action to support UNRWA so it will not be used by anyone as a weapon against the Palestinians.

Commenting on the U.S. attitude toward Israel and the Middle East peace issue, AL-URDUN says: During the last 30 years, Israel has been able to make the United States believe that it wants peace and stability in the area. Israel has been able to create this impression through the Zionist lobby in America and its false efforts to achieve peace in this sensitive part of the world.

But recent U.S. experience with Israel has proved to the decision-makers in Washington that Israel is actually against lasting and real peace. How else can one explain these feeble Israeli arguments to hamper--just as they have hampered in years past any settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute--the American and UN initiatives to secure real stability in the area.

AL-URDUN concludes: The reality of the developments in the area and the need for a responsible attitude toward these developments call upon the U.S. administration to reconsider its dependence on the supporters of Zionist aggression. Otherwise, one cannot predict the effect of what is happening now and what will happen in the future to U.S. interests in a strategic area like the Middle East.

SARKIS MEETS WITH MINISTERS, SOUTH LEBANON DISCUSSED

NC051338 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Within the framework of efforts to deal with the situation in the south and to follow up the general conditions in the country, President Ilyas Sarkis held a working meeting at 1000 today attended by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. Defense Minister and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and Chief of Staff Brig Gen Munir Tarabayh joined the meeting at 1100. Developments in southern Lebanon and the results of the diplomatic contacts taking place on the Arab and international levels for this purpose, as well as the government's steps to deal with the situation, are being discussed in the working meeting.

Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss left the Presidential Palace at 1315. He made a statement in which he said that the discussion during this meeting focused on the issue of the south from all its angles as part of the required action to insure the scrupulous and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 444 during the period of the UN forces mandate. We reviewed the results of the contacts that took place with the Arab states, the big powers, the Palestinian leadership and a number of concerned parties regarding the measures required to achieve the desired objective--to insure the deployment of the UN forces in the south and the enforcement of legal authority throughout the area--as soon as possible. We studied the various possibilities of action that the Lebanese Government can take in various directions and on all levels to achieve the desired results.

Asked whether the contacts held at home and abroad have made it possible to carry out the provisions of the UN resolution within the first 3 months, Dr al-Huss said: The question of the provisions of the Security Council resolution on implementation within the first 3 months of the new term of UNIFIL is still under discussion with the United Nations in New York and with the UNIFIL command. This discussion will be continued, and we hope to have results soon.

Asked whether there is a possibility of Arab action or an Arab or European tour on the situation in the south, the prime minister said that this possibility exists, but so far no decision has been made in this regard.

LEBANESE FORCES COMMAND MEETS, ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

NC051933 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, commander of the Lebanese forces, chaired a meeting of the Lebanese Forces Command today. The meeting was attended by Dany Sham'un, Defense Secretary of the National Liberal Party, and by the Command Council members: Jean Nazir, Nuhad Shawhar, George 'Ulwan, Nabil Karam, Abu Arz, Abu Roy and Fu'ad Rukus. The command studied all aspects of the Lebanese situation and adopted the following resolutions and recommendations:

1. The current controversy over the defense bill and the jurisdiction of the army command is peripheral to the main topic, which is the structural organization of the army. Those at the meeting decided that the army should have a cause to motivate its soldiers and that appearances should not motivate the army command. Building the army requires prior agreement on the political structure of the state.

2. The command believes that the settlement of Palestinians in the south is proceeding steadily and quickly. Therefore, the Lebanese Forces Command supports the steadfastness of the official and popular Lebanese forces in the south. It calls for strengthening this steadfastness with manpower and material aid and for expanding its geographical area so that only the Lebanese people will remain in the south.

The command also warns against any attempt to make life difficult for the Lebanese forces there, either by suspending their salaries or submitting distorted reports on their role to the international organizations and the friendly states.

3. The Lebanese Forces Command denounces the stands of the official information media that harm and distort the Lebanese cause.

4. The command studied a detailed report submitted by the special security department dealing with the security situation and the problems facing the citizens in their daily life. Until the authorities reassume their responsibility in this sphere, the command decided to adopt a series of measures designed to preserve the security of the citizens, settle their daily problems and combat all kinds of crimes.

5. The command studied its organizational conditions with a view to strengthening the effectiveness of the command and facing all contingencies. The command also affirmed its adherence to the UN cease-fire resolution, despite the fact that it is repeatedly violated by the Syrian occupation forces in Lebanon.

FRANJIYAH GIVES STATEMENT TO BEIRUT PAPER AN-NAHAR

NC051207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Beirut, 5 February--Former President Sulayman Franjiyah has called for the unity of Lebanon and the coexistence of its sons as in the past. He accused the Phalangist Party of cooperating with Israel but he said that he did not have proof of similar cooperation as far as [former] President Camille Sham'un was concerned. In a statement published by AN-NAHAR today, Franjiyah said he has proof of Phalangist cooperation with Israel but that he does not have similar proof concerning Sham'un, the leader of the Rightist National Liberal Party and an ally of the Phalangists. Franjiyah said that the cargoes that ships brought to the port of Juniyah, north of Beirut, and to the port of Safra, were received by the Phalangists. Franjiyah said that Menahem Begin's statement that 1 billion Israeli pounds were paid to the militias in Israel [as received] proves that the Phalangists received these weapons. He repeated his demand that those who deal with Israel should be prosecuted.

Franjiyah mentioned for the first time that the crime that had been carried out by the Phalangists against his son Toni Franjiyah, his family and 30 other persons in the township of Ihdin in northern Lebanon had been planned by Israel. Franjiyah said that he left the Lebanese Front, which included rightist militia parties, after it deviated from its aims and started to cooperate with Israel and call for partition.

Al-Jumayyil Discusses Franjiyah Statement

NC051606 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 5 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] Asked his opinion about the interview former President Sulayman Franjiyah granted to AN-NAHAR, which was published today, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: I have carefully read the interview. I noted with regret a number of distortions used as material for outbiddings. Lebanon is suffering from grave wounds and its future is threatened. It stands at a serious national crossroads. Today, more than ever, it needs someone who could dress its wounds and extinguish the fire raging in and around it, not someone who adds fuel to the fire. I call on former President Franjiyah to search his conscience to see the definite role of the Phalangist Party in the tragedy Lebanon has been going through despite the arrows directed at it from the back and the front.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD CHAIRS MEETING OF BA'TH PARTY OFFICIALS

JN052038 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] At 1430 today President Hafiz al-Asad chaired a meeting of the secretaries of the Ba'th Party branches in the governorates and of the governors. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; and Mr Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs.

The president was briefed on various activities in the governorates and discussed with the participants the issues concerning their governorates. He explained the developments in the Arab situation in detail and affirmed the need for more efforts to bolster the Arab nation's steadfastness. He also spoke on the achievements realized thus far in the unity march with Iraq.

At the conclusion of the meeting, which lasted until 1815, the president gave them instructions on methods of work to be applied in the next stage.

PDRY LEADER ISMA'IL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS

JN051220 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council of the PDRY, held a press conference in the guest palaces yesterday evening. The press conference was attended by 'Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs and head of the escort party; Rashid Muhammad Thabit, PDRY information minister; and correspondents of the local and foreign press and news agencies.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il answered questions from the press.

Asked about his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad, Isma'il said that among the issues he and President al-Asad discussed, Arab liberation issues were naturally the most prominent. It is natural that the issue of the Arab nation's struggle constitutes the core of all Arab talks, especially if we consider fraternal Arab Syria as the Arab nation's frontline with the Zionist enemy. In an atmosphere of frankness and amity, we discussed all matters connected with the Middle East issue, the joint struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to support and assist the Palestinian revolution and regain the Palestinian people's legitimate inalienable rights, including their right to establish their own independent state on their soil.

Isma'il added that they discussed the issues related to this struggle because the PDRY and fraternal Syria are standing in the same trench and are members of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. Isma'il said that his talks with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad were fruitful and useful and that their viewpoints proved to be fully identical on the role the Arabs should play in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism and for the liberation of all the occupied Arab territories and the triumph of the Palestinian revolution.

Isma'il added that their viewpoints were identical on the capitulationist and treacherous policy of Anwar as-Sadat, who has completely allied himself with U.S. imperialism and has agreed to bargain over issues he has no right to discuss and which can never be a topic of discussion with imperialism or the Zionist enemy.

Isma'il added that they discussed all factors that would help to activate the Arab struggle for steadfastness and confrontation in the current serious circumstances and the role of the Arab liberation movement in support of this struggle. He said: In addition, we discussed developing bilateral relations on the official, party and popular levels. We jointly believe in the need to strengthen these relations at these levels.

Asked about the attacks against the developing Syrian-Iraqi relations and the Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter, Isma'il said: We believe that the Arab nation's enemies cannot but be the enemies of the Arab nation's unity. Since the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement is a source of strength for our Arab nation and for the struggle of our Arab people, then the imperialist-Zionist forces must surely be alarmed by this rapprochement and unity, for which we wish all success. Our enemies find weakness in our dispersion and division and therefore try to legalize this division in our Arab homeland. However, our unity is the source of our strength and of our capability not only to oppose our enemies and triumph over them, but also to achieve progress and prosperity. Our unity is the source for building a real socialist society.

Isma'il added that this unity is a source of pride to the Arabs and that its success will constitute a new step forward and will give a new revolutionary impetus to the success of the unionist trends in the Arab homeland.

Asked about rapprochement between the two parts of Yemen, Isma'il said that the PDRY believes that Yemeni unity would be an important and basic factor contributing to the Arab nation's struggle along with all the other Arab progressive forces. Therefore, the PDRY has always and will continue to raise the question of unity between the two Yemens.

Party Cooperation Agreement

JN051441 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--An agreement on cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Yemeni Socialist Party was concluded in Damascus this morning. The agreement was signed for the Yemeni Socialist Party by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, party secretary general and PDRY Supreme People's Assembly chairman, and for the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, party assistant secretary general.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade al-Ahmar said: This agreement is the fruit of your visit to Syria at the head of your party and government delegation. Al-Ahmar called the visit a step forward in strengthening the bonds between the two fraternal countries in the interest of the common struggle to build our socialist society, to confront imperialism and Zionism, and to contribute to the liberation and progress of the world's peoples. In conclusion, Comrade al-Ahmar expressed the belief that our Arab nation will triumph over its enemies in building our unified Arab socialist society.

In reply, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il thanked Comrade al-Ahmar for his warm fraternal remarks. Isma'il expressed his pleasure at signing the two-party cooperation agreement. He said: We feel that we are comrades standing in one trench and waging a common struggle for the sake of our Arab national objectives: the liberation of our occupied Arab territories and the restoration of our Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights.

Isma'il emphasized that the cooperation agreement will be a turning point in strengthening and developing their principled relations for the sake of our hopes and aspirations for liberation, progress and socialism.

The signing of the agreement was witnessed by Comrade Fawwaz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command member, and PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti'.

PDRY Delegation Leaves

JN051212 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 5 February--'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council in the PDRY, and the delegation accompanying him left today for Kuwait at the end of a 3-day visit to Syria. During the visit he held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad.

President al-Asad was at the head of those who saw the PDRY chairman off at Damascus International Airport

Isma'il Cable to Al-Asad

JN051426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Feb 79 JN

[Text of cable of thanks sent by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, PDRY People's Supreme Council chairman and Yemeni Socialist Party secretary general, to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from his plane upon leaving Syria on 5 February]

[Text] Upon leaving fraternal Syria, I am pleased to send you my brotherly greetings and profound thanks for the profound hospitality and warm reception accorded us during our visit to fraternal Syria, a visit that has given us an excellent opportunity to acquaint ourselves with current developments in Syria and its achievements in the social, economic and cultural fields made under your leadership. The visit has enabled us to exchange opinions and viewpoints on crucial Arab issues and international issues of mutual concern. It has also strengthened the relations between us and has opened new vistas for developing the relations between our two peoples and parties, in our mutual interests and the interests of the Arab nation as well as for the victory of liberation, progress and world peace.

Our visit to fraternal Syria has left a deep impression upon us and has increased our pride in the heroic and steadfast role Syria plays in the vanguard of our Arab people, in the forefront of the Arab national liberation struggle and within the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front against imperialism, the Zionist enemy and the traitorous As-Sadat regime.

We again repeat our pride in and support for the fraternal Syrian people's struggle under your leadership. Brother Hafiz al-Asad, kindly accept our warm greetings and best wishes for your continued good health and happiness. We wish the fraternal Syrian people further progress and success; and the relations between our two countries, peoples and parties further progress, development and prosperity.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA

JN021427 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 2 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 2 February--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus today following a brief visit to Saudi Arabia. While in Saudi Arabia, Khaddam conveyed a message to Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from President Hafiz al-Asad.

ALGERIA

TU APPEALS TO WORKERS TO VOTE FOR CHADLY BENDJEDID

LD030028 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The national secretary of the General Union of Algerian Workers has addressed an appeal to all Algerian workers, affirming that the success of the fourth FLN congress is a new gain and victory for the Algerian socialist revolution, which proved once again to the world the extent of firmness and strength of its organizations, the political maturity of all the militants and the soundness of the line drawn up by the late leader of the revolution, Houari Boumediene.

After referring to the democratic debate which dominated the work of the congress and the importance of the resolutions and statutes issued by the congress, the appeal affirmed that the participation of all the social forces of the revolution within the political leadership of the country and confirmation of the irrevocable socialist choice are considered a shattering blow to imperialism and internal and external reaction.

The appeal explained that in the face of imperialist attempts to distort our revolution, the socialist revolution more than at any time before is today in need of mobilization and constant vigilance of all the social forces of the revolution under the banner of the FLN--the vanguard force of our revolution. In this connection, the national secretariat calls on all workers, cadres and trade union bodies to participate collectively in the general election to take place 7 February to elect struggler brother Chadly Bendjedid, secretary general of the FLN, as president of the republic.

PARIS NEWSPAPER: BENDJEDID TO RELEASE BEN BELLA

LD021949 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Paris, 2 February--MAP--The weekly newspaper AN-NAHAR, which is published in Paris, reported today quoting Arab diplomatic sources in the French capital that the first important step which Chadly Bendjedid, the new Algerian president, will take will be the release of former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella.

The paper added that President Bendjedid wants to find a peaceful solution for the Saharan question and for the differences which smeared Algerian-Moroccan relations as a result.

LIBYA

PDRY'S 'ABD AL-FATTAH ISMA'IL ENDS VISIT

LD032104 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

[Text] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, president of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, and his accompanying delegation this morning left Tripoli after a 1-week visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Brother Isma'il was given an official farewell at Tripoli International Airport. The farewell was headed by Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he expressed his conviction of the generous hospitality and warm welcome with which he and the accompanying delegation were met in the law of the Great1 September Revolution. He also expressed his satisfaction with the results reached during his visit to the Jamahiriyah. He stressed that the huge achievements in all spheres scored by the Great 1 September Revolution, achievements which he felt throughout his visit to the Jamahiriyah, were not only a triumph for the Libyan Arab people but also a triumph for the Arab people in the PDRY and for the Arab peoples in general. He explained that his visit to the Jamahiriyah and the talks he held during the visit reflected the extent of the fraternal cohesion between the two peoples in the Yemen and the Jamahiriyah. He also stressed the joint role of the two countries in the battle of the national liberation struggle against colonialism, Zionism and Arab reaction for the victory of the primary cause of the Arabs, namely Palestine, and the role of both countries within the framework of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to strengthen its struggle to face all suspicious plans being hatched by the tripartite American-Zionist-reactionary alliance to make way for the defeatist capitulation solutions in our Arab region.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il pointed out that the talks he held in the Jamahiriyah expressed an agreement in points of view of both countries [words indistinct] the struggle of the African peoples and the liberation movements in the world to destroy all forms of world colonialism and its reactionary and racist regimes.

Joint Communique

LD032301 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Feb 79, JANA--Following the visit of brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY People's Supreme Council, to the Jamahiriyah, a joint communique was published, whose text is as follows:

At the invitation of Col Mu'ammar al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist party, and chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY People's Supreme Council, paid a state visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah from 27 January to 3 February 1979.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and the accompanying delegation were accorded a warm welcome, expressing the deep ties linking the two fraternal peoples of the Jamahiriyah and the PDRY. A meeting took place between brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, during which there was a review of fateful Arab issues, the current international situation and matters of interest to both countries. In an atmosphere of fraternity and understanding the Libyan and PDRY sides held a series of meetings, during which they discussed bilateral issues and stressed with satisfaction the continuous growth of the strong cooperation between the two fraternal countries. The two sides exchanged views and reviewed the experiences of the two revolutions regarding the revolutionary progressive changes being conducted in both countries in realization of the interest of the [word indistinct] masses. Both sides stressed their respective determination to further develop this cooperation between them in a deeper and more comprehensive manner, which will benefit the two fraternal peoples and increase their influence in the front of steadfastness and confrontation, and in the struggle being waged against the Zionists, the colonialist forces and their aggressive schemes in the Arab homeland.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi briefed brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il about the achievements of the Great 1 September Revolution in the political, economic, social, cultural and intellectual spheres, and also about the achievements of the masses in the building of a new socialist society, and the realization of the power of the people. He also familiarized himself with the resolutions of the people's congresses taken during the fourth session of the General People's Congress held in the period 16-21 December 1978.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il voiced his great appreciation of the realizations of the Great 1 September Revolution in these spheres and lauded the vanguard role played by the Jamahiriyah in order to reach the national objectives of the Arab nation and the struggle against Zionism and colonialism in all its forms.

For his part, brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY People's Supreme Council, briefed brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, on the achievements and revolutionary changes realized by the people of the PDRY under the leadership of the Yemeni Socialist Party in the political, economic, social, cultural and intellectual spheres. He also briefed him about the colonialist conspiracies to which the Yemeni people are subjected, and which are aimed at impeding the process of social progress of the PDRY, and the continuous efforts of the people to defend the independence, sovereignty and unity of the homeland.

The Arab Libyan side stated that it stands by the PDRY in its struggle against the colonialist and reactionary forces bent on encroaching upon its sovereignty. The Libyan side also voiced its appreciation for all the achievements of the PDRY in all these spheres.

With regard to the Yemeni problem, the Arab Libyan side appreciated the realist policies of the PDRY to avoid war and to solve the various issues opposing the two halves of Yemen in a peaceful, democratic way and in order to realize the unity of Yemen in the interest of the Yemeni people.

Both sides showed interest in the grave situation in the Arab region. In this regard the two sides stressed their respective determination to continue the march of struggle, resistance and confrontation and to continue to adhere to the objectives of the all-Arab struggle.

Proceeding from faith in the unity of the Arab nation, the unity of its struggle and fate and aspirations in the furtherance of the pan-Arab drive to defend the objectives and rights of the Arab nation to confront the threats looming over the Arab homeland, and in response to the requirements of further struggle against Zionism, old colonialism and neocolonialism and reaction:

--The two sides reaffirm their adherence to the resolutions of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation;

--They reject and condemn the Camp David agreements which represent an aspect of the Zionist-colonialist conspiracy against the Arab nation, the Palestinian cause and the rights of the Palestinian people;

--They also reject any consequences to which they might lead; they denounce all surrender schemes and the alliance and collusion of the Egyptian regime with the Zionist (?and colonialist) enemy in order to annex by force the territory of Palestine and to occupy more Arab territories;

--They stress their determination to face up to these schemes, to make them fail and to continue the struggle against the Zionist enemy, colonialism and reaction.

The two sides also voiced their support for the armed struggle waged by the Palestinian people against the Zionist racist entity; they expressed their absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO--its sole legitimate representative--for liberation, the return home, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in Palestine.

The two sides also reviewed the situation in southern Lebanon, the repeated Zionist aggressions aimed at liquidating the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese nationalist progressive movement; the two sides condemned the plots of the sectarian isolationists allied with Zionism. They stressed the Arab nature, independence, sovereignty and unity of Lebanon. They also reaffirm their support and assistance to the Lebanese nationalist progressive movement and the Palestinian resistance.

The two sides also denounced all the colonialist and reactionary attempts to pass schemes against the Arab nation and its objectives.

The two sides reaffirmed their support for the Arab people in Western Sahara and its legitimate struggle for self-determination and independence; they strongly condemned any measures contrary to the fundamental rights of the fraternal Saharan people; the two sides also supported the just liberation struggle of the Oman people under the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

The two sides (?welcomed) the charter for joint pan-Arab action between the two sister countries of Syria and Iraq; they regard this as a fresh gain for the Arab nation which makes it possible for fraternal Iraq to join the Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in its struggle against the Zionist enemy aided by international colonialism; this charter also adds a new Arab force to the Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation.

The two sides on the other hand stressed the importance of fulfilling the resolutions of the Baghdad summit in order to face up to surrender solutions and the plans of the Zionist enemy.

The two sides reviewed the present political situation in the Indian Ocean, the Arab Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean. They have noted with extreme concern that these regions are confronted with international colonialism, its repeated provocations and military movements, which are a threat to the sovereignty of the peoples of these regions, and a threat to impose ways of social development contrary to the interests of these peoples.

For this reason, the two sides condemned these movements, and urged the forces of national liberation to resist them; on the other hand, they underlined the need for these regions, and other regions, too, to be free from foreign military colonialist bases and to enjoy peace and fruitful cooperation in the interest of their peoples and the peoples of the international community.

The two sides greeted the revolution of the Iranian people against the tyrant regime of the shah allied with colonialism and Zionism in the region. The two sides expressed their support for this Islamic progressive revolution aimed at realizing the national and social interests of the Iranian people. Both sides lauded the brave positions of the Iranian people, and their struggle and daily sacrifices which led to a cut in oil supplies to the Zionist entity and the racist regime in South Africa.

The two sides discussed the situation in the African Continent and reiterated their support for the African liberation movements and their strong condemnation of the racist regimes and the methods of suppression, exploitation and racial discrimination. They also reiterated their firm stand on the side of the struggle of the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and Azania and their support for the legitimate demands of the FROLINAT in Chad.

The two sides condemned imperialist interference which seeks to reimpose its hegemony over the African Continent. They reiterated their intention to help and support the African peoples who are struggling for the liquidation of the foreign imperialist bases and forces on the continent and for the attainment of their independence and freedom.

The two sides condemned the collusion between the racist regimes in southern Africa and the Zionist entity and their alliance to strike at the national liberation movements. The two sides affirmed that the Arab-African cooperation will insure the realization of the interests of the Arab and African peoples, the overcoming of backwardness and the elimination of all vestiges of imperialist exploitation.

The two sides affirmed once more their firm rejection of all forms of racial discrimination and lend support to the resolution adopted by the 30th UN session which considers Zionism as a form of racial discrimination.

The two sides declared their adherence to the aims and principles of the nonalined movement and their deep faith in the effective role played by the nonalined countries in international politics and the struggle against racism and imperialism in all their forms.

The two sides saluted the forthcoming Havana conference of the nonalined countries and look forward to playing an effective role in bolstering the nonalined movement in its struggle against racism and imperialism.

The two sides stressed the importance of bolstering and developing relations with fraternal and friendly countries as well as with the countries of the socialist bloc, foremost of which is the USSR, and the forces supporting the Arab nation's struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

The two sides reiterated the right of the peoples to have control over their natural resources and expressed their support for the establishment of a new international economic system which would put an end to exploitation and monopoly in international economic relations and which would enable Third World countries to exploit their natural resources and use them for the improvement of their standard of living and development.

The two sides expressed their adherence to the aims and principles of the United Nations and stressed the need for the United Nations to play a more effective role in the liquidation of imperialism, old and new.

On reviewing the current international situation, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the victories scored by the world revolutionary forces in the battle against world imperialism and reactionary forces.

The two sides referred to the importance of disarmament and the establishment of peace, security and cooperation and affirmed that peace is indivisible and that European security is closely linked with that of the Mediterranean and the Arab area.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the results of the continuous exchanged visits between the two countries and the contribution those results have made toward the the development of realtions between them for the good of both peoples. They stressed the importance of political and economic cooperation and coordination in all Arab and international issues for the sake of the continued development of these relations. The two sides agreed on the need to hold continuous meetings at all levels.

The talks between the two sides covered economic, commercial, cultural, technical and scientific matters. The minutes of a protocol of economic cooperation and the executive program of a cultural and technical cooperation agreement were signed. The two sides agreed that the joint Committee for Technical and Economic Cooperation should meet once every 6 months alternately in Tripoli and Aden.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party expressed his thanks and admiration for Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, commander of the Great 1 September Revolution and the brothers in the Jamahiriyah for the hospitality they showed to him and the accompanying delegation. He invited his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to pay an official fraternal visit to the PDRY. The invitation was gratefully accepted, and its date will be fixed later.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES DECISION ON REORGANIZING SECRETARIATS

LD031940 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

["Text" of decision No 2 for 1979 on reorganizing the Libyan governmental secretariats issued on 1 February 1979 by the Libyan General Secretariat of the General People's Congress]

[Text] The General Secretariat of the General People's Congress, implementing the decisions of the third ordinary session of the people's congresses which met from 21 October 1978 to 20 November 1978, and implementing the decisions drafted by the General People's Congress in its fourth session for 1978 which set up general people's committees in the municipalities, has drawn up the following decision:

Article I

The Secretariats in the Socialist People's Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah are to be reorganized in the following manner:

1--The Secretariat of Justice
2--The Secretariat of Health
3--The Secretariat of Petroleum
4--The Secretariat of Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation
5--The Secretariat of Housing
6--The Secretariat of Economy
7--The Secretariat of the Treasury
8--The Secretariat of Heavy Industries
9--The Secretariat of Light Industries
10--The Secretariat of Education
11--The Secretariat of Information
12--The Secretariat of Electricity
13--The Secretariat of Communications and Maritime Transport
14--The Secretariat of Municipalities
15--The Secretariat of Jamahiriyah Sport
16--The Foreign Secretariat
17--The Secretariat of Planning
18--The Public [al-ammah] Service Secretariat
19--The Secretariat of Social Security.

Article II

The secretariats are to be rearranged, their designations outlined, and public establishments and departments set up, abolished and transfered from one secretariat to another by decisions of the General People's Committee without being restricted to the provisions of the laws in force.

Article III

The existing secretariats, not mentioned in Article I of this decision, on the issuing of this decision are to be merged with the secretariats as follows:

A--The Secretariat of the Interior with the Secretariat of Justice;

B--The Secretariats of Agriculture and Dams and Water Resources with the Secretariat of Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation;

C--The Secretariats of Trade, Nutrition and Marine Wealth with the Secretariat of Economy;

D--The Secretariat of Youth with the Secretariat of Jamahiriyah Sport;

E--The Secretariat of Social Affairs and Social Security with the Secretariat of Social Security;

F--The Secretariat of Industry with the Secretariat of Light Industries;

G--The Secretariat of Labor and Civil Service with the Secretariat of Public Service.

Article IV

All public authorities and establishments with the exception of the following are to be abolished:

The universities and institutes, the municipalities, the central apparatus for general administration control, the auditing office, the Jamahiriyah security authority, Libya's central bank, the atomic energy establishment, the agricultural bank, the industrial and real estate bank, the national petroleum establishment.

Article V

Until the decisions stipulated in the next article are issued, the present secretaries will continue to run the secretariats given in Article III, their public authorities and establishments according to the statutes and laws in force.

Article VI

The General Public Committee is to issue the necessary decision for the transfer of employees which will result from the provisions of this decision. The employees are to keep the same grade, seniority and salaries they now hold.

Article VII

This decision is to be published in the official gazette and to come into force from the day it is issued.

The General Secretariat of the General People's Congress.

Secretariat of Interior Abolished

LD051104 Tripoli JANA in English 1448 GMT 4 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 4 February, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Secretariat of the Interior has been abolished in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah after the role of this secretariat ceased to exist by the achievement of the people's authority and the beginning of the era of the masses.

It is known that the basic role undertaken by interior ministries in existing regimes is protecting rulers from revolutions by their people, spying on the people and striking the counter movements resisting their regimes, so these rulers have absolute control of power and wealth over the rest of the people through the Ministry of the Interior.

The abolition of the Interior Secretariat in the Jamahiriyah confirms the well-established people's authority so that its protection is no longer a monopoly of a secretariat or particular departments but a popular responsibility that should be undertaken by every citizen. The responsibility of people's security is therefore the responsibility of the people's committees, in the same way as all other sectors are being run by people at all levels of planning, control and implementation.

MOROCCO

RABAT COMMENTS ON KHOMEYNI'S CONTACTS WITH POLISARIO

LD040223 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The report carried by world news agencies about Khomeyni's meeting, prior to his departure from Paris, with a delegation representing the POLISARIO arouses surprise and raises numerous question marks. This is more so since, as has been confirmed by various sources, this meeting was only one of a series of other meetings Khomeyni held with the POLISARIO regularly since he took up residence in Paris and throughout the months he spent there.

The reason for the surprise is that Khomeyni, who was working in Paris on an issue of concern to his country, which has nothing to do with Morocco, should have devoted his efforts only to the issue which concerns him and in which he believes and which he is defending with methods he has seen fit to adopt, instead of involving himself in one way or another in a conflict which is of no concern either to him or to his country.

Khomeyni should have contributed to easing the tension in the Sahara which is the result of a conflict between two neighboring states, by helping to put out the fire of hatred and bring about conciliation between brothers as dictated by the teachings if Islam. Khomeyni knows that this is stated in the Holy Koran. God said: Should two factions of the faithful quarrel, then make peace between them.

As to the questions, we say that relations between Morocco and Iran have always been strong relations, and Morocco has always found support from Iran for its territorial integrity and just cause.

Will Khomeyni's alinement with one of the parties to the conflict and his suspicious contacts with the POLISARIO help to preserve these relations in their present level? This is the question we ask and hope the Iranian leader himself will consider with farsightedness and great care.

MOROCCAN EDITOR OPTIMISTIC ON BENDJEDID NOMINATION

LD051355 Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Louis Gravier report: "Morocco Seems To See Bendjedid as Guarantee of Rapprochement"]

[Text] Rabat--"He is a man far removed from the extremes, who has not allowed himself to become confined within any ideology. He is a pragmatist, a good soldier, an able administrator with an open mind. But he is also a man of strong character who, according to all who know him, will be able to win acceptance for his views and will not let himself be manipulated.... This is corroborated by the fact that, under Colonel Boumediene's leadership, he was one of the few to oppose the president." Such is the tribute paid to Colonel Bendjedid on 1 February in the MAROC SOIR editorial.

The man who signed it, Ahmed Alaoui, was a member of the government when, 10 years ago during President Boumediene's visit to Morocco, he met with Colonel Bendjedid who was a member of the Algerian delegation which had come to sign, on 16 January 1969 at Ifrane in the Middle Atlas, a "treaty of fraternity, friendship, neighborliness and cooperation." A few days later King Hassan II gave Ahmed Alaoui the task of going to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to explain the meaning and the scope of this Moroccan-Algerian agreement.

In the absence of a formal official reaction--unlikely at present--following Colonel Bendjedid's nomination as candidate to the presidency of the Algerian republic, it is significant that the future head of state has been saluted like this by a former minister who experienced an important event in Moroccan-Algerian relations, and that the eulogy is accompanied by an expressed reference to the Ifrane treaty. It was in the spirit and line of the latter that Morocco and Algeria subsequently agreed to joint exploitation of the Gara-Djebilet iron ore in the Tindouf area. (Various circumstances, including the West Sahara conflict, have meant that this exploitation has never been undertaken.)

Following the grave Tan-Tan affair, which has provoked endless questions and comments here, the emergence of Colonel Bendjedid in the forefront of the Algerian political scene provides some cause for hope in the eyes of many Moroccans. Certainly the president of the Algerian Republic will be judged on his actions.

"If the man has remained true to his principles," Alaoui writes, "if he is the way observers describe him, the first thing he will have to do is to put an end to the crisis which is dividing the Maghreb."

Moreover, although proclaiming after the Tan-Tan affair that Morocco is determined to repulse any attack "against national territory," the Moroccan leaders have confirmed that they are willing to talk constructively in order to "put an end to the tension prevailing in the region." They have not launched into a military counterattack which would have been liable to poison the conflict and broaden it dangerously.

According to Alaoui, in order to restore peace and set the future on healthy foundations, "there is no other solution but to return to the spirit of Ifrane," in other words, overcoming the problem of transfers of sovereignty by exploiting common riches within the framework of the Maghreb. "We hope," he concluded, "that the new situation emerging in Algiers will constitute a first step toward restoring peace."

CORRECTION TO ITEM ON BOUCETTA LETTER TO BOUTEFLIKA

The following is a correction to the item entitled "Rabat Reports Letter from Boucetta to Algeria's Bouteflika," published in the 5 February Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT, page I 2:

Page I 3, line seven should read ... health was the only reason that prevented the ... deleting erroneous negative.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI, ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU TO MEET 15 FEB

LD051448 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] SUNA has learned that it was decided today that 15 February will be the date for the meeting between President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. The meeting will take place in Freetown, capital of Sierra Leone. The agency added that intensive contacts are in progress by the Reconciliation Committee under the chairmanship of Sierra Leone between the Sudanese and Ethiopian sides within the framework of preparations for the meeting.

It will be recalled that the Reconciliation Committee has as members Algeria, Cameroon, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, [name indistinct], Zambia, Zaire and [name indistinct].

Mengistu Welcomes Meeting

LD051450 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] Ethiopian President Col Mengistu Haile Mariam has expressed optimism over the Freetown meeting between himself and the leader president, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, to be held on 15 February. He said it will mark the beginning of a new era in Sudanese-Ethiopian relations. He said the relations between the Sudanese and Ethiopian peoples are historical with roots in the depths of history, and that what has happened between them is a transitory matter which can be tackled by dialog. He said this in a press interview for the magazine SUDAN NOW, to be published tomorrow. In it he referred to Sudanese-Ethiopian relations and to the forthcoming summit meeting between the two presidents in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Maj Yilma Girma, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Ethiopian minister of information, told SUDAN NOW that the Ethiopian Government would welcome negotiations with the Eritrean fronts for the sake of reaching a peaceful solution to the Eritrean problem within the framework of a unified Ethiopia. During his meeting with the magazine, Dr Feleke, the Ethiopian foreign minister, pointed out that existing trends indicate that normal relations between Ethiopia and Sudan will be restored.

Al-Fatih at-Tijani, chairman of the editorial board of SUDAN NOW, and As-Sirp Sid Ahmad, its editor-in-chief, have spent a week in Addis Ababa, during which they had talks with a number of Ethiopian officials. Tomorrow's issue of the magazine is the outcome of this trip.

JERUSALEM DENIES SEEKING BEGIN-AS-SADAT SUMMIT

TA060749 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 6 Feb 79 p 1 TA

[By HATZOFE political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] Israel has not put forward a proposal for a meeting of the Egyptian and Israel heads of state in Al 'Arish to discuss the implementation of the Camp David accords, political circles in Jerusalem said yesterday, reacting to a report from Egyptian sources that Israel had submitted such a proposal, rejected by Egypt because it wants the United States to participate as a mediator.

From this [later] report it could be learned that Egypt is interested in U.S. mediation as a means of pressuring Israel to agree to make concessions. Egypt is also afraid of direct negotiations because of the psychological effect it currently has on the other Arab countries.

Jerusalem thinks that the next step in the negotiations will be a U.S. initiative to call for another Israeli and Egyptian meeting on a high level either in the area or outside it.

DAYAN: FRANCE WILL NOT HAMPER PEACE TALKS

TA051946 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1909 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan thinks that France will not hamper the course of the negotiations between Israel and Egypt but that it does not believe in a separate peace between Israel and Egypt. The foreign minister met today with directors of Foreign Ministry departments and reported to them on his official visit to France last week.

According to Dayan, France is not talking about a Palestinian state, but it does talk about the need for a homeland [previous word in English] for the Palestinians. Dayan estimates that a dialog and direct contact has now been established between the French administration and Israel, which will find its expression, among other things, in improving the trade balance between the two countries and in French action in the EEC to benefit Israel.

MK RABIN: PEACE TREATY WILL BE SIGNED BY END OF APRIL

TA051628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Text] MK Yitzhaq Rabin has told reporters in Geneva today that he is convinced that the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will be signed by the end of April. Rabin thinks that the two countries have already made progress beyond the point of no return. At the same time, MK Rabin thinks that various complex problems still require a solution and that it is certainly necessary to have another meeting between Prime Minister Begin and President as-Sadat.

MK Rabin is currently in Europe on a fund-raising mission.

ARENS SPEAKS ABOUT PEACE, EGYPT, MIDDLE EAST

TA060717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Feb 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] MK Moshe Arens, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, believes that Egypt must now make concessions that will bring about the signing of the peace treaty. He said this in London. MK Arens is in England on a visit to mark the opening of a central office for the Herut Party branches in Western Europe. Mikha'el Almaz reports from London. [begin recording]

Professor Arens repeated his position that the Israeli concessions made in the Camp David accords are not the price of peace, but the price of a lottery ticket when the prize is peace. That is why he voted at the time against the agreements and he has not changed his opinion about them since. Nevertheless, it emerged that he would be prepared to be reconciled to the agreements, but that he thinks that Egypt must now make the concessions which will bring about the signing of a treaty. According to Arens, there is no point in calling a summit to reach an agreement; the concessions--or to be more exact, the Egyptian concessions--can be reported at any level.

Professor Arens was asked what had caused the change in President as-Sadat's position since Camp David and he replied: The original assessment in Jerusalem was that As-Sadat wanted to free himself from the Arab fight against Israel, but now it appears that this evaluation was wrong and that As-Sadat has no intentions of deserting the Arab camp; on the contrary, he wants to head it.

As for the general situation in the Middle East, Professor Arens explained that the U.S. administration was wrong in sacrificing relations with Israel on the altar of basing U.S. policy on Iran, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. All the Muslim countries are merely a hollow reed, Professor Arens said, because they have no affinity for the West. On the other hand, Israel is capable of contributing significantly to the democratic camp.

As for the agreement between Iraq and Syria, Professor Arens emphasized that these countries are currently receiving the best sophisticated Soviet arms and that their growing strength worries Jerusalem. [end recording]

BEGIN APPEALS FOR UNITY IN LIKUD RANKS

TA060734 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Feb 79 p 1 TA

[By Asher Wallfish, POST Knesset reporter]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday appealed to the members of his Herut wing in the Likud to help restore harmonious relations inside the ruling right-wing bloc. "I call on all wings to cease their arguments, and turn over a new leaf. Mutual relations must be improved," he said.

At a closed meeting of the Herut wing, called at his request, and from which the MK's were reluctant and apparently a trifle nervous about leaking information, Begin said that the tension between the Likud wings was "so bad that it was damaging to the regime." Yet he was sure the friction would vanish, as soon as colleagues once again began treating each other with mutual respect, and demonstrating the good will of the early days of the Likud government.

"You have to let us carry on undisturbed with the job of governing," he told his Herut colleagues. "This government won the confidence of the people, and you must let us function."

Begin promised to talk to the Liberal and La'am wings in the same language, and with the same message, that the ranks must be closed.

While it is only natural, he conceded, that ministers in a Cabinet disagree with each other, things should not have degenerated to the present sorry situation between them.

"I have already spoken to Yitzhaq Moda'i about the problem," Begin said, referring to a series of criticisms uttered by the energy and communications minister about his fellow-Liberal, Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich.

Begin defended Ehrlich against all comers. "You must understand our country's economic plight. You must curb your criticisms and your complaints. Ehrlich has made a marked contribution to the strengthening of the Likud. He has no intention of breaking our bloc up. When he left that impression, it was a slip-up. You must realize what pressure he is under," Begin said.

As an example of the way that the Likud's idyllic relations of old had become "ugly," Begin blasted Herut talk of the Liberals being "hitchhikers."

Coalition Chairman Hayim Corfu said the root of the evil was in relations between Cabinet ministers, and not between the Likud wings.

Ge'ula Kohen said everybody in Herut was frustrated. She urged Begin to reflect awhile alone, to think things out afresh. Using the image of the Halachic post-menstrual ritual for women, she said "Begin should sit apart for seven days till he is clean once again."

When she said she did not criticize 'Ezer Weizman or Simha Ehrlich, but only Begin, the prime minister interjected: "I shall not react to personal attacks."

Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said the arguments were about plans, and not personalities. "They are about substantive issues and I find them entirely legitimate," he claimed.

Roni Milo said that "in the government and the Jewish Agency, Herut men are getting a raw deal. Arye Dulzin uses people from outside the Likud. He stops good Likud men from getting ahead. When he wanted a director for his housing scheme, he took an Alignment man."

MK Deqel: "I only called the Liberals hitchhikers after they claimed that they got us into power."

After a discussion about the future of the Absorption Ministry, Begin warned his Herut wing that the solution would not necssarily accord with their party programme, which would give the government greater responsibility.

MINISTER PAT INTERVIEWED ON INTERNAL LIKUD MATTERS

TA022014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 2 Feb 79 TA

[Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat is interviewed by David Margalit within the framework of the weekly column program--recorded in the radio studio]

[Excerpt] [Question] Minister Pat, are you satisifed with how the present Likud is functioning?

[Answer] There are two categories here: the Likud as such and the Likud as part of the government. I am not content with the situation in the Likud due to the deterioration and erosion in the relations between the two major Likud components: the Liberals and Herut. However, I believe that this is amenable to change and to change for the better if the prime minister and the Herut leadership dedicates time and thought to this issue. We have seen lately that several Herut members, who do not belong to the first Herut ranks, have attacked the Liberal Party. I am not a psychologist, but I am certain that if we let a team of psychologists check the motives for this, they will reach the conclusion that frustration is the reason for this activity and directs it against the Liberal Party, of all parties.

I know several Herut members who quietly talk of their dissatisfaction with the Herut's activity within the government. They may also be frustrated because of the prime minister's positions which, according to our assessment, are prudent and correct positions that will lead Israel to peace. They, instead of attacking the prime minister--they dare not do so--they attack the most stable element in the Likud and in the government which gives the prime minister full support. I once said to the prime minister: We support him because we think he is right. If we thought he was not right we wouldn't have supported him. The fact is that we are a solid party which is usually united and the representatives of this party give the prime minister support and those who dare not attack the prime minister attack the Liberal Party. The whole thing has become a sort of a competition--who attacks the Liberal Party more and who less.

[Question] Is it against this background that you view the finance minister's statement about a possibility of running separately in the next elections?

[Answer] I think that the finance minister's statement was timely. First, we want to explain that we are most worried about the survival of the Likud if the prime minister indeed decides to retire at the end of his term in office and not to lead the Likud in another term. We view Mr Begin as the unchallenged leader of the Likud and the major glue of the Likud's components. I think that Mr Ehrlich did the right thing in bringing things into the open.

Another thing: It is about time that the Liberal Party explains to its Herut colleagues that there is a limit to tolerance. We are not prepared to continue to be reprimanded especially because these reprimands come from people whose motives I discussed earlier and not from people whom we respect or whom we feel to have an extraordinary talent for leadership. There are many attorneys in the Herut movement who have adopted the title of economist for themselves and are experts on economic affairs, we have also found many economists who are experts on legal affairs. I would suggest that all these members try to learn the problems with a bit more wisdom and to reveal a little more responsibility. I regret the fact that some Herut movement members--and thank God they are not the major figures of the movement--possess a greater degree of frustration than responsibility. Therefore, it is good that Ehrlich said what he said the way he said it. We occasionally hear the same Herut members, and I am talking of members belonging to the lower ranks....

[Question, interrupts] Who, for example?

[Answer] Some members, including Knesset members. Just this week I heard a Herut Knesset member say that some of the Liberal Knesset members are carried on the back of the Herut movement. I want to remind these members...

[Question, interrupts] Who said this?

[Answer] If I am not mistaken it was MK Deqel. I want to remind the Herut members that a large number of them are carried on the back of Prime Minister Begin at the Knesset. They must take this into account. The Liberal Party has given a lot to the Herut movement. The Liberal Party has taken the Herut movement out of the opposition desert. I do not know whether the Herut movement would have reached government and control had it not been for the Liberal Party. It is true that a government cannot be set up without the Herut movement, but a government cannot be maintained without the Liberal Party.

[Question] You know, if I did not know you were talking about your partners in the coalition I would have thought you were talking about an opposition party....

[Answer] Look, In our outlook as the Liberal Party--I am a member of this party in its past development as well and I have been a member of the party for over half my lifetime--we do not, nor have we ever, believed in ideological collectiveness. This perhaps is what distinguishes us from Israel's socialist parties. I would view it as a disaster to the Likud and to the Liberal Party if we all became what is called in English a mutual admiration society [last four words in English] namely, that everybody loves everybody and everybody admires everybody. This is not our way of life. Differences of opinion inevitably exist in a democratic regime since then the results and conclusions are better.

[Question] Still, the gap existing between differences of opinion and sharp expressions such as you have used is still large....

[Answer] But it depends to whom I directed these expressions....

[Question] To your coalition partners.

[Answer] But I want you to understand that I still view the Herut movement as a wise, matter-of-fact leadership with which we have always cooperated. We have lived with it in the framework of GAHAL [Herut and Liberty Party bloc] and are also living together within the Likud framework. Ten members of the Herut movement center who belong to the lowest Herut ranks cannot be equal, in my eyes, to a single word from the prime minister and to the serious, wise and important members who lead the Herut movement. Therefore, our partnership is with the Herut movement and not with those, I would say almost reckless people, who look for an outlet for their frustration and the easiest way is to attack the Liberal Party or its representatives.

[Question] There is also a liberal minister, Minister Moda'i, who levels criticism at the finance minister....

[Answer] I do not want to go into Minister Moda'i's criticism. Minister Moda'i is a member of the Liberal Party. The relations between us are relations of friendship and what I have to tell Minister Moda'i, I tell him in private.

Criticism is leveled at the finance minister, however. I think that those who criticize the finance minister today so openly and emotionally should take into consideration that they harm the entire Likud and not only the finance minister. Our economic problems mainly derive from the 30 years of faulty economic management of the previous governments.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ANALYZES BALANCE OF POWER IN CABINET

TA021917 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 2 Feb 79 p 1 (Weekend Supplement) TA

[Yesha'yahu ben-Porat commentary: "Anatomy of a Government"]

[Text] This has been Simha Ehrlich's week. First he sent a colleague in the Cabinet to a psychiatrist. Afterwards he said that the relationship between one minister and another is like that of predators. In the end he threw down the pack of cards and threatened the dissolution of the Likud if its leader, Menahem Begin, fulfills his vow and resigns at the ageof 70 and won't "run" for a second term of office.

In Israel, when one minister slanders and insults another minister, it is food for newspaper headlines and the public enjoys it and applauds. Even ministers--they rightly say--are only human, with weaknesses and drives like everybody else. There were times when those elected by the people used to fling at each other expressions which were no less juicy, like "hooligan," "smarkatch" (someone who doesn't know how to wipe his nose) or "paskodinyak" (Polish for dirty bugger). As to the more recent past who doesn't remember what Yitzhaq Rabin said in public about Shim'on Peres, and vice versa?

However, when a person with nice manners, like the finance minister, who has not made a name for himself in public for his rage and anger, sends Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i "to a psychiatrist" it raises some eyebrows. When the same Simha Erlich gives a fatal verdict about the relations between government ministers, you feel embarrassed. But when an experienced and sharp-witted politician like him waves the axe of separation over the head of the Likud, you ask yourself: "What is actually going on here?"

It is very difficult to withstand the temptation of giving weighty consideration to the "lapsus linguae" of the finance minister. What he has said has merely strengthened the circulating opinion (not only in opposition circles) that the government, out of lack of maturity, has contributed with its own hands to the reduction of its dwindling and crumbling image. In comparison with previous governments, the drawing of daggers and the firing from the hip with which some of the ministers--not only former generals--are "blessed" and the semantic saber rattling which you can sometimes hear emanating from its sessions, although they take place behind locked doors, and the censorship of the "ministerial committee for security affairs" have already accorded this government a special coloring of its own. It is not necessary to point out that this is not exactly a particularly delicate color, not very cultured, and devoid--especially among the disciples of Jabotinsky--of glory and respectability. Indeed, where are glory and respectability when members of the Cabinet, in addition to the fact that even in sessions of the government plenum they place no figleaf in front of their mouths, use dirty language when they speak about other ministers and the Cabinet as a whole outside the walls of the cabinet meeting place?

There are quite a number of focal points of tension and inner personal friction in the government. Moda'i wants to fire Ehrlich and inherit his place as head of the liberals. Ehrlich hits back, tit for tat, without taking into consideration the severe misfortune which recently struck the minister for energy, and claims--even in very closed forums--that in his opinion the man needs psychotherapy. Moda'i does not tolerate Gid'on Pat and it is known in government circles that this feeling is mutual. Pat does not like Arik Sharon, to use an understatement. Apart from what has been published about the squabbles between the two, there has already been the instance when the minister of industry, commerce and tourism flung at his colleague, the minister of agriculture, an expression that was so sharp--also with a psychological connotation--that the prime minister abandoned his passive silence and ordered the offensive expression to be struck from the minutes of the session. Sharon and 'Ezer Weizman are alternatively enemies and friends. When they are friends, 'Ezer admires Arik's colorful tie, and Arik offers it to him as a gift. But when they are foes, and this is what unfortunately happens most of the time, the prime minister has to intervene personally and actively, in order to avoid their asking for each other's dismissal. About Dayan, 'Ezer has already said, during a debate in the Cabinet, something far worse than was published in the papers at the time. And only in very closed circles can one hear Dayan's opinion about the defense minister, an opinion not at all complimentary, despite the understandings which were reached between the two after the Leeds conference and in the Blair House discussions.

Even the prime minister, Menahem Begin, a man of restraint, who this week said that he had heard "with profound pain" about the exchange of compliments between the ministers of his government, lost his cool at least once, when he attacked his old friend Hayim Landau ("Abraham" in the underground) with the poignant remark: "What does an engineer understand about the legal formulations on political issues?" However, the prime minister, unlike others, did not allow a lapsus linguae to spoil the friendship, and shortly apologized to him about the incident.

There is no need to extend the list of tensions and serious incidents, which for months have distinguished the functioning of malfunctioning (as the opposition would say) of the Likud government. However, it is impossible to close the negative balance without mentioning, on the one hand, that between the defense minister and the minister of justice remarks have been dropped which refer to the personal tragedies of the two. Even if the remarks were struck from the protocol, their impact will perhaps never be eradicated.

On the other hand--one cannot help mentioning the lack of respect, or rather the contempt, demonstrated by Cabinet ministers toward the deputy prime minister.

It must be said in favor of those close to the prime minister that they are not trying to deny or to whitewash the unsightly picture which this government exhibits toward the outside world. However, those loyal to Mr Begin, although they do not take lightly the ugly situation, naturally tend to take a less dim view of it. This is a marginal phenomenon, they say, which takes place as in the case of Ehrlich vs. Moda'i, in the party sphere or on a personal level, par excellence. Quite rightly they point their finger at what happened in the not so distant past, in the Rabin-Peres confrontation on the highest level which reached climaxes which the Likud government, with all its shortcomings, has not yet experienced. [paragraph continues]

In Rabin's eyes, Peres was a "cancer," and "not serious," while Rabin--in Peres' view--was a "solitary and arrogant ruler," who wanted to copy the presidential regime of the U.S. for adoption by Israel. While Yitzhaq Rabin was an impatient prime minister, and served as a focus for the creation of tension, Menahem Begin, so they say among his entourage, is blessed with enormous patience ("I've inherited that from my mother" he used to say) and dispels tension with a lot of patience even if that sometimes causes him personal pain and heartache. It is characteristic for Begin--those close to him say--that he does not "bang on the table" and does not impose dominance and discipline when ministers squabble. At most he calls on those concerned like 'Ezer and Arik, to straighten things out in a person-to-person meeting, without eyewitnesses. "It's not nice," he would say in such instances, or "this is not very becoming behavior," and then he goes on to the next item on the agenda.

According to those who tend to belittle these instances, they have perhaps created a distorted image of the government as a collective body. But this has nothing to do with its substance and its functioning in the realm of serious issues required of it.

As far as the government and its prime minister are concerned, this is a desirable conclusion. But it still requires proof, because this is not the way the government appears in the eyes of the public at this stage. Those who follow the work of the government closely find it difficult to regard it as a united collective body, even as regards the handling of the more important issues. Like previous governments--if we ignore the personal arguments and quarrels, the Likud government does not excel in maintaining "blocs" of "kitchens" (closely-knit ideological circles) which fight in a legitimate way for the pursuance of their political line. In performing an anatomic analysis, one can discern that the government is now one central political focus, leaning on a silent majority of "yes-men" accompanied by a secondary, "hawkish" focus, while one minister ('Ezer Weizman) watches the goings on from the position of an observer, intentionally passive. Only at the fringes, in the political sphere, two other centers, in the realm of personal ministerial power, have recently been created.

On top of the ladder--and not only by virtue of hierarchy--there is the prime minister. There is practically no political or security decision which Menahem Begin cannot get through in the Cabinet with a large majority. The votes of Dayan, Yadin, Ehrlich, Pat, Levy, Burg, Abu Hatzera, Katz and Nissim are practically assured, a priori. On the whole Shmu'el Tamir is part of the consensus, although recently he does so with hesitation and reservations, and with a sidelong glance in the direction of the "hawkish" wing.

There he finds Sharon, Landau, Hammer and Moda'i, who constitute the "hawkish" focus almost permanently. But there have already been instances when, for example, 'Ezer Weizman was called to Jerusalem to report on the Blair House agreements, that this focus expanded and was strengthened, to no small extent under the influence of Shmu'el Tamir, by the Ministers Burg, Nissim and Tamir himself.

While the defense minister has recently taken a vow of silence, which has already been described as "thunderous," having already complained to the prime minister that "there are words, and there are words missing, but just how long can you drag out the negotiations?" Foreign Minister Dayan ("Begin's best choice" in the opinion of those close to him) goes through his motions, in zig-zag movements, as is his way, pressing for compromises here and there, but eventually straightening out his line in accordance with Begin's opinion. [paragraph continues]

The target date (end of 1979) for elections for autonomy was proposed at the time by him and by 'Ezer, but was rejected--in the presence of Mr Vance--by the prime minister, something which induced one of the heads of the State Department to state in an internal report: "Now it is clear who makes the decisions in Israel." Nevertheless, Begin and Dayan are still on the same wavelength, and after Weizman has been eased out of the "inner circle," they are the political think-team of the government, to Sharon's great dismay. Dayan and Begin, by themselves, coordinate postures toward Cabinet debates. And when Dayan pulled out, in a debate on a draft resolution, he accompanied its presentation with an apologetic smile: "This is what I propose, if I have correctly read the prime minister's mind," whereupon the prime minister nodded his head and said: "Indeed this is what I had in mind."

Dayan is regarded by Begin as having a fertile brain with plenty of original ideas.

Begin--From Dayan's point of view--is the unquestionable boss, and the man who gave him a chance, perhaps one that will never come again, to recover and to be a senior partner in the determination of Israel's fate. For that Dayan owes him gratitude, and this is expressed in absolute loyalty. This does not preclude Dayan's leaving the Likud government under certain circumstances. Apparently Begin fosters a profound liking for Gen (Reserve) Arik Sharon, and appreciates his devotion to the encouragement of settlement "numerous and fast." Nevertheless, the prime minister refrains from participating in the political circle which makes the decisions, and keeps him in a role of "limited involvement."

Cabinet ministers testify that two of their colleagues have recently strengthened their position in the Cabinet considerably: Shmu'el Tamir and Zevulun Hammer. The minister of justice, who has refrained from confrontations with Begin, and after his return from his tour to the United States earned great official praise on behalf of the Cabinet, felt liberated--after the split in the DMC--from personal fetters as well as political, which had been a burden to him. His involvement in political-legal issues increased immensely, so much so that it stands to reason that in future he will be coopted to the negotiating team. Apart from the serious mishap with Weizman, which was mentioned above, Tamir takes pains to maintain proper relations with all ministers, including both Ehrlich and Moda'i. This week he also lent a hand to Sharon and himself presented in the Knesset the solution of the problem of Sharon's private farm.

On the other hand, there is Zevulun Hammer, who enjoys the prime minister's sympathy and appreciation, due to Hammer's honesty and diligence and thanks to their joint basic trust. Hammer, who holds radical-nationalistic views, represents in the Cabinet--up to a certain limit--"Gush Emunim," but he is capable, if so required, to have a soothing and tranquilizing effect on them. Although Dr Burg is the senior representative of the MAFDAL, Begin sometimes confers with Hammer alone, and ministers already say that it is possible "to finalize an issue with Hammer without Burg."

A look into the future brings us back, eventually, to Ehrlich's threat of dissolving the Likud. The threat is based on Begin's (who is 66) wish to retire at the age of 70, in order to write a book on the "generation of the holocaust and the resurrection." One of the personages closest to him told me this week that this is a vow which is a very serious one. "Beyond the age of 70 Begin will not continue," the man said with great conviction. Moreover, the confidant of Begin confirmed that the "prime minister is not preparing an heir for his position." In this instance he acts and will act "like Ben-Gurion."

It is against this background that one ought to understand what Ehrlich said on the subject. When Begin retires, there is likely to be a sharpening of positions in the leadership, which would make a continuation of the partnership with the Liberals difficult. This party, perhaps with the addition of the "dovish" wing of Herut, is likely to be tempted, in this case, to "run" in the coming elections as a separate party, with a sidelong glance toward another coalition combination which would not rule out a partnership with the Labor Party.

This is one forecast, among many. There is another forecast, no less logical, which is more acceptable to the Likud leaders. According to that forecast Ehrlich's threat was merely intended to tell Begin that without him the wagon won't move, and that it is Begin's duty to keep running, even byond the age of 70. Ehrlich hopes with all his heart--so his friends say--that when the time comes Begin will respond to his appeal.

Be that as it may, it has become clear this week, thanks to Ehrlich's slips of the tongue, that there is more than discomfort in the government, and that there is no guarantee for the existence of Likud, unless Begin--the founder--remains as its head. And this, too, is an important political lesson.

PRIME MINISTER'S ACTING ADVISER FOR ARAB AFFAIRS APPOINTED

TA051251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Binyamin Gur-Arye this morning took the position of the prime minister's adviser for Arab affairs instead of Dr Moshe Sharon who resigned [words indistinct]. After Shmu'el Toledano resigned from the adviser's position, Binyamin Gur-Arye substituted for him. He has served as deputy adviser for about 1 and 1/2 years.

RAMALLAH RELATIVELY QUIET, FATAH SLOGANS APPEAR IN JANIN

TA052024 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1807 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Ramallah, 5 Feb--Following 2 days of student riots, relative quiet prevailed in Ramallah today after the security forces increased their presence and the military government warned the students' parents.

Only a small number of students tried to stage disturbances. They erected a barricade of stones and set a tire on fire. However, the students were dispersed and some of them were detained for investigation.

Those students also hurled stones at those schools where the students refused to strike.

In Janin, slogans like "Death to the betrayers of the Palestinian revolution" signed by Fatah were found written on walls of public institutions.

BEGIN, DAYAN SEND CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF UNIFIL SOLDIERS

TA051954 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin today sent condolence cables to the Norwegian and Fijian prime ministers on the death of the UNIFIL soldiers from their countries following clashes with the PLO in southern Lebanon. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today sent a condolence cable to the man in charge of the UN headquarters, Gen Ensio Siilasvuo, on the death of the six UN soldiers who were killed in the shooting by the PLO men.

The efforts to prevent further clashes between the terrorists and the members of the UNIFIL Fiji contingent continued today as well. Two soldiers from the Fiji Islands and one terrorist were killed in the clash.

WEIZMAN: NO OBJECTIONS TO DUTCH UN FORCE IN LEBANON

LD051537 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 30 Jan 79 p 3 LD

[S.M. Bouman Tel Aviv dispatch: "Israel: The Dutch Are Extremely Welcome"]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 30 Jan--Israel does not have any general objection to the Netherlands' sending a UN contingent to southern Lebanon. That is what Defense Minister Weizman told Dutch Ambassador Arriens yesterday.

The meeting was held in the minister's office in Tel Aviv at the initiative of Ambassador Arriens, who said, "It was a pleasant meeting."

The ambassador questioned the minister about persistent reports in the Jerusalem POST that Israel is exerting pressure on the Netherlands not to send any troops to southern Lebanon. According to the Jerusalem POST, Israel fears that that would damage the "excellent relations" between the two countries.

Minister Weizman denied the tenor of the reports and assured Ambassador Arriens that "we welcome the Dutch." He gave an assurance that the Dutch soldiers could count on a hearty welcome if they visited Israel.

Weizman dissociated himself from the march criticism of the UN Interim Forces in Lebanon [UNIFIL] voiced by Chief of Staff General Eitman among others. After the latest Palestine surprise attack on Maalot, Eitman accused UNIFIL of being unable to prevent PLO infiltration into Israel through UNIFIL lines in southern Lebanon. Weizman said that it is impossible to hermetically seal the border area and that the Israeli Army had also lost track of the Palestinians who had penetrated the country for 2 days.

ARAB COUNCILS TO ELECT NEW COMMITTEES

NC041035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 4 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] This morning more than 50 Arab heads of local councils are meeting to elect a new committee which will reflect the changes that occurred in the wake of the recent local council elections. The local councils in the Arab triangle have already elected four candidates who will represent them on the new committee:

Meanwhile, more than 10 Arab local councils have asked the Ministry of the Interior to enable them to get their loans in dollars in order to surmount the difficulties in their budgets. The heads of these councils are also demanding an immediate loan increase which will make these loans equal to those given to the Jewish towns.

MUSLIM GROUP SEEKS MORE RIGHTS FOR MUSLIMS IN ISRAEL

TA032124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 3 Feb 79 TA

[Text] A group calling itself the General Muslim Committee claims that the Muslim residents of Israel do not enjoy the status of a recognized religious community. Its members convened in Nazareth today and called on the government to release the frozen property assets of the Waqf. They said they will turn to the religious affairs minister and demand that institutions like those existing for the Druze and the Christian communities be established.

The secretary of the committee, Muhammad Zaydan, who is the chairman of the Kafr Manda local council, told our correspondent, Gad Levi, that there is indeed a connection between the members of his organization and organizations such as the committee for the Protection of Lands operating under Rakah patronage. However, according to him the Muslim committee has no political aspirations.

NEW JORDAN VALLEY NAHAL SETTLEMENT ESTABLISHED

TA021237 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Feb 79 TA

[Text] A Nahal foothold settlement moved to its site in the area of Na'aran in the Jordan Valley 2 days ago. The name of the foothold is Na'ama. It is located 1 km north of 'Awja. In the next few days another Nahal foothold is to be established in the northern Jordan Valley.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer remarks that the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs decided more than 1 month ago to set up these two footholds and another one in the southern Gaza Strip. The location of the footholds in the Jordan Valley was recommended by the military elements in the framework of plans to fit them in the Jordan Valley settlements and on the basis of the security deployment.

TEHRAN RADIO VIEWS WESTERN PESSIMISM ON TRADE PROSPECTS

ID051258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 79 ID

[Text] It was officially announced in London today that the Iranian Government has asked the British Government for the suspension of talks concerning orders for and purchases of military equipment. Our correspondent Mohammad Purdad reports from London:

Following the recent talks between officials of the Iranian Government and the U.S. administration for revising and canceling deliveries of military equipment from the United States, informed sources in the West predict similar talks between the Iranian and British governments in the near future. The value of Iran's military orders from the United States, revision and cancellation of which were included in the agenda of their talks, is estimated to total $10 billion. As for Iran's military orders placed in Britain, which include Chieftain tanks, Rapier guided missiles as well as orders placed by the Iranian Navy which are to be revised or canceled, it is estimated that their value exceeds $2 billion.

The Iranian Government's request for a revision of military orders with Britain was communicated to the British Government last week. The military equipment ordered by Iran from Britain, which was to have been delivered within the next few years, is currently under manufacture. In this context reference could be made to new Chieftain tanks, costing between 600 and 700 million pounds sterling. Considering that these orders as well as others are undergoing production, talks are underway between London and Tehran officials to clarify what the Iranian Government means in revising the orders.

According to the London press, should the Iranian Government decide to cancel all the military orders, the (?consequences) will be considerable.

Regardless of the fate of Iran's previous military orders from the United States, Britain and other Western countries, there is one clear fact, and that is that irrespective of any political change with Iran, these countries have at any rate lost Iran as a major purchaser of arms. This change will greatly please the Labor Party's leftwing, which has always opposed the excessive sale of arms to Iran.

Nevertheless, both Britain and the United States are losing a buyer at a time when they are preparing the ground to find other customers, most prominantly the People's Republic of China. Despite the warning from the Soviet Government, Britain has already made its final decision, and announced it to the Beijing [Peking] government, with regard to the sale of arms, including the sale of Harrier vertical takeoff aircraft.

There exists an air of ambiguity about the future of Britain's trade with Iran. For Britain, Iran has in recent years become the biggest export market in the Middle East. The volume of Britain's exports to Iran during 1978 exceeded $1.5 billion. If one adds other invisible incomes, including tourism, insurance and [word indistinct], the figure would reach $2 billion for this period.

According to economic sources in London, as a result of the increase in trade between Britain and Iran, right now 140,000 jobs depend directly or indirectly on Britain's trade with Iran. In addition to Britain's exports to Iran, the amount of Britain's investments in our country is estimated at between $600 and $800 million.

It is in view of the sensitivity and importance of such trade with Iran that London officials have been rather reticent and have refrained from expressing any official [word indistinct] view in recent months about the developments in Iran. It is because of this that they have refrained from taking sides with one group in favor of another. The British press also gives the impression that the target of anti-Western feelings in Iran is mainly the United States; this is to at least dilute the current anxieties concerning the loss of the gigantic Iranian export market.

Similar anxieties are also noticed in West Germany, for after the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany takes second place in Iran. However, unlike the future of their trade with Iran, economic circles in France, as a result of the welcome accorded by the French Government to the Iranian Shi'ite leader, are eagerly looking forward to ever-expanding economic relations between France and Iran. The intensity of this eagerness is such that a number of individuals predict that very soon France might be able to take first place in the list of Iran's economic partners.

Apart from these plans, there are two specific forecasts among economic circles in Europe and the West with regard to the future of economic and trade relations with Iran, regardless of the current crisis in our country. The optimists believe that, apart from any doubts about Tehran's policies, Iran's economic and industrial expansion, though at a slower rate, will depend on trade with all Western countries; that once the situation returns to normal, not only will the import doors not be closed on the West's exports, but they will be opened even wider. There are also the pessimists who believe that what is happening in Iran today is the beginning of a crisis which is to last for several years, with respect to which one must step cautiously in any deal with Iran.

Whatever the danger of Iran's political and economic crises for trade relations with Iran, one point is at least clear; the point is that severe blows have been dealt to Iran's currency parity on world money markets. The exchange rate of the Iranian rial against the pound sterling, which until 3 months ago on the London market was 137 rials, is now 185 rials, which is 48 rials more.

AYATOLLAH KANI ISSUES MESSAGE IN SUPPORT OF KHOMEYNI

LD051340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In a message issued in light of recent events, His Eminenfe Ayatollah Haj Sheykh 'Abdolrahim Kani, in an introduction alluding to the national and religious movement under the blessings of the guardian imam, may our souls be sacrificed to him, refers to the leadership of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, and says: It is the duty of the warriors, the fighters and all those involved in the movement to forget their differences, disputes and different ideas; to strive in the same trenches for the annihiliation of [word indistinct] forces; to resolutely resist the agents of dictatorship and counter the enemies of the nation, so that they might carry out their most fundamental religious and national duty.

In his message, Ayatollah Kani adds that punishment of those who have committed offenses, even those proved guilty, should be postponed so as not to interrupt the movement's operations, and so that the point is not misconstrued by the world and the movement ultimately denigrated. Obviously, it is quite understandable that all the people must await the punishment of the guilty. We hope that, with the help of God, through setting up competent courts, this matter will be dealt with and all the guilty parties will be punished for their ugly deeds and their dishonesty. Ending his message, His Eminence Ayatollah Kani calls on all Muslims to demonstrate their true maturity to the world.

OIL INDUSTRY SECURITY BUREAU DISBANDED

LD051520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In a circular, the chairman and managing director of the NIOC has issued an order for the dissolution of the security bureau of the oil industry, which liaises with SAVAK. The circular points out that the armed guard of the oil industry will continue, within the framework of the law, to maintain the various units of the oil industry throughout the country.

ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTRIES' SECURITY BUREAUS DISBANDED

LD051522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to an Interior Ministry spokesman, all provincial governor generals' offices throughout the country have been notified that beginning 5 February 1979 all security bureaus of these provinces are to be considered disbanded. They have also been asked to take measures to transfer the employees of these bureaus to other units. Moreover, the head of the country's education evaluation organization has announced that the organization's security bureau has also been disbanded. They have also been asked to take measures to transfer the employees of these bureaus to other units. Moreover, the head of the country's education evaluation organization has announced that the organization's security bureau has also been disbanded. The security bureau of the sport organization of the country was also disbanded this morning. Latest reports say that the security bureau of the Ministry of Culture and Art has been disbanded as well.

LABOR OFFICES ABROAD DISBANDED, OFFICERS RECALLED

LD051524 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to a Labor and Social Affairs Ministry spokesman, in line with the government program to economize and abolish redundant posts in government ministries and organizations, on the basis of instructions issued by Labor and Social Affairs Minister Manuchehr Ariana, as of today all labor offices in South Korea, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, Britain, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates have been disbanded and their liaison officers recalled to Tehran.

'SUICIDE COMMANDOS' DENOUNCE UPI OFFICE BOMBING

TA051249 Paris AFP in English 1245 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Excerpts] Tehran, Feb 5 (AFP)--Three bombs exploded at the building which houses the U.S. news agency UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL (UPI) here last night, Radio Tehran reported today.

The attack was denounced today by the "Iranian constitution suicide commandos," which threatened "exemplary punishment" for those responsible.

The "suicide commandos" recently threatened former Prime Minister Karim Sanjabi and other politicians with death for being "in the pay of the Soviet Union." They have announced they mean to enforce "respect of the constitution" by, among others, Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar.

KHOMEYNI HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE, BAKHTIAR REACTION

LD051744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At a press conference this afternoon, His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni announced that he has appointed Mr Mehdi Bazargan to form a provisional government. His eminence the ayatollah called on the people to cooperate with the provisional government formed by Engineer Bazargan. According to PARS news agency, at the press conference held at 1720 today, nearly 300 correspondents and local and foreign cameramen participated. In the course of the press conference his eminence the ayatollah once again stressed that because of the years-long chaos, Iranian urban and rural citizens now demand a change of regime. The government that we desire is an ordinary ['adi] government interested in everyone in the community. His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni also reiterated his views on the illegality of the majlis and the government, and added: Supported by public votes, we shall announce a government to end the chaos and prepare the preliminaries for elections, and form a constituent assembly so that the assembly may decide on the formation of an Islamic republic.

Following these developments, Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, in a telephone interview with a correspondent of this station, said regarding the formation of a provisional government led by Engineer Bazargan: I have already stated my position in this regard: one state and one government. Earlier Dr Bakhtiar had said one Iran and one government; more than that is tolerable neither to me nor any Iranian. The prime minister also spoke to our correspondent in a radio interview last night about a civil war and said: At any rate the government is obliged to carry out its legal duties, and it will do that. As long as the provisional government is limited to pronouncements and statements there is no objection to it, but if it enters into the realm of action, then it is impossible to tolerate two governments in Iran and, for this reason, I hope my contacts with Ayatollah Khomeyni will not be broken off.

Prime Minister Bakhtiar pointed out yesterday that he would have no objection to an announcement regarding a provisional revolutionary government by Ayatollah Khomeyni provided this government plays the role of a possible replacement cabinet or a shadow cabinet. The prime minister said yesterday he would not create any obstacle to Ayatollah Khomeyni's provisional revolutionary government provided the announcement regarding this revolutionary government was not a step toward rebellion and disruption of public order.

According to AFP, following his appointment as provisional prime minister by Ayatollah Khomeyni, Bazargan stated: It is an arduous assignment entrusted to me and one fraught with dangers. He added that despite all the difficulties he will accept the post. According to AFP, Engineer Bazargan believes that in order to prevent a bloodbath one has to move step by step.

AFP Report

TA051437 Paris AFP in English 1431 GMT 5 Feb 79 TA

[Excerpts] Tehran, Feb 5 (AFP)--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni today named Mehdi Bazargan to head the provisional government he is proclaiming in opposition to that of Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar. Mr Bazargan, a close aide to the ayatollah, who was present for the announcement, confirmed that he had agreed to form a provisional government and serve as its premier. No other members of the opposition government were named.

"Everyone must obey this government," Ayatollah Khomeyni declared, adding that any opposition to it would be considered "opposition to the law and to the Islamic revolution."

Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar, named to his post by the shah of Iran shortly before he left the country, reacted to the news by declaring, "there will be only one government in Iran."

Since he has repeatedly threatened to arrest any officials serving in a government formed by the Shi'ite Muslim opposition, Mr Bakhtiar was asked whether he planned to arrest Mr Bazargan.

"As long as he limits himself to talking, that is one thing. If he tries to act, it is another," the premier replied.

The National Revolutionary Islamic Council, consisting of supporters of Ayatollah Khomeyni, issued a proclamation at the press conference expressing the conviction that "all government officials, the army and the people will cooperate with the provisional government and respect order to make it possible to achieve the single goal of our revolution." Addressing Mr Bazargan, a 73-year-old engineer, the council continued, "you are named to this post without any consideration of your past political or partisan commitments. We take into consideration only our faith in Islam." The council instructed Mr Bazargan to form a provisional government and then organize a referendum in the near future "to ask the opinion of the Iranian people about changing the government to an Islamic republic."

Answering reporters' questions after the announcement, Ayatollah Khomeyni said the government should be formed "as rapidly as possible." If the army did not accept the provisional government, it would be "punished according to the legislation that will be that of the country," he added.

Mr Bazargan affirmed that he was conscious of the dangers he faced. He refused to name any other members of his government but insisted that there was no "shadow cabinet" involved. "It is really operational. We are very serious and very determined," he said.

PARS TO REDUCE FOREIGN POSTS, REVIEW AGREEMENTS

LD060944 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The PARS news agency has decided today to dissolve all its representative offices in foreign countries--Iraq, Bahrain and Pakistan--as of the first of next year [beginning 21 March 1979]. It has also decided to carry out a general review of its agreements with foreign institutions and news organizations so that unnecessary and superfluous agreements may be rescinded as early as possible.

According to our correspondent's report, as a result of the review that took place, the PARS agreement with the INTERPRESS services news organization, which is based in Rome, the capital of Italy, was cancelled because of disuse and for reasons of economy. Also, the service terms of five foreign employees who worked in the international affairs section of this news agency for the last 2 years were terminated, and the existing staff of this unit will take charge of their duties.

PRO-KHOMEYNI DEMONSTRATION REPORTED IN TEHRAN

TA060807 Paris AFP in English 0805 GMT 6 Feb 79 TA

[By Patrick Meney]

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6 (AFP)--A big street demonstration started here today to celebrate the proclamation of a provocation government yesterday by the Shi'ite Muslim spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Troops took up positions round the headquarters of the religious leaders to keep the demonstrators from approaching. Overhead, a cloud of helicopters hovered, apparently a warning that the armed forces were nearby.

The National Front (NF) of Iranian opposition parties meanwhile appealed to authorities of the shah's regime "to submit to the decision of Ayatollah Khomeyni to set up a provisional government."

The left of centre National Front issued a statement that the provisional government headed by Mehdi Bazargan "reflects the will of the majority of the people and can permit peaceful transition toward democracy, resorting to universal suffrage and without bloodshed."

More than 100,000 people were marching without violence, chanting slogans backing an Islamic republic and hostile to the shah's Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar.

Additional processions were arriving from all parts of the city, each consisting of tens of thousands of people, many of them veiled women. The crowds were waving newspapers with big headlines announcing the proclamation of the "provisional government."

It was still too soon to know whether the official government or the ayatollah's would have more authority. But there were signs that the proclamation had an undoubted impact on the people. For instance, the bars in the main hotels closed last night. Their employees explained: "We are under an Islamic republic so we will serve no more alcohol."

All stores in the city remained closed today as requested by the religious leaders. The store strike has lasted three months. Long lines of people waited at petrol filling stations as usual because of low petroleum output, which has also been crippled by strikes for three months.

ALERT REPORTED AT AIRBASE NORTH OF TEHRAN

TA060815 Paris AFP in English 0813 GMT 6 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6 (AFP)--Lavasan air base north of the Iranian capital has been put on alert and troops there ordered to don combat uniforms, a reliable source said here today. Planes were readied to take off. The alert, which was not the first since the Iranian crisis began, started yesterday. Many helicopters and fighter planes were flying over Tehran at low altitude this morning.

SHAH REPORTED IN CONTACT WITH GENERALS, HOVEYDA ILL

TA061020 Paris AFP in English 1004 GMT 6 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6 (AFP)--The shah is in contact with certain Iranian generals at regular intervals, the independent newspaper AYANDEGAN reported here today. They inform him of the latest developments in the crisis, the paper said.

It also reported that the arrested former Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda is seriously ill and has been hospitalized. He was arrested three months ago during the former military government's crusade against corruption. Also arrested then were several other former high officials including General Nematollah Nasiri, ex-chief of the SAVAK. Mr Hoveyda, 58, was premier for 12 years until dismissed by the shah in August 1977 in a move to quell mounting discontent.

BAKHTIAR REAFFIRMS POSITION AS 'LEGAL PRIME MINISTER'

LD061128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, has announced: If all the majlis deputies resigned I would still remain the legal prime minister until the holding of the next elections. Speaking in the majlis following the approval of two government bills regarding the prosecution of transgressors and the dissolution of SAVAK, he stressed that he would not surrender under any conditions. I have nothing to say about governments existing in the public imagination as long as they remain a joke and mere pronouncement. But if they take action I will respond with counteraction, he said. The Iranian prime minister further said: If there is any transgression against the people I will identify and expose the transgressor by name and give the particulars.

FOREIGN MINISTER ANNOUNCES IRAN WILL LEAVE CENTO

LD061100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Mr Mir-Fendereski, the foreign minister, in an interview with the PARS news agency today, announced that Iran would withdraw from CENTO. At the same time certain changes would be effected in relations between Iran and Israel and South Africa.

SHARI'AT-MADARI DENIES SPLIT ON ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

TA041801 Paris AFP in English 1744 GMT 4 Feb 79 TA

[By Pierre Lambert]

[Text] Qom, Iran, Feb 4 (AFP)--Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, a top Shi'ite Muslim leader in Iran, denied here today that any basic disagreement existed among leading ayatollahs over the way to establish an Islamic republic in this country. Details remaining unsettled would be resolved "in talks we will have in coming days," he told foreign journalists today in his residence in this holy city.

Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, considered a moderate, is one of the most venerated and listened-to men in Iran, along with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. But while the more radical Ayatollah Khomeyni represented resistance to the regime of the shah from his residence in exile abroad for 15 years until his return to Iran last week, Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari became a symbol of resistance within Iran.

Wearing a black robe and turban and a perpetual, amused smile, he replied politely today to all questions. The Islamic government that Shi'ite leaders plan to set up in Iran would differ from an ordinary democracy only by the "practice of Islamic laws," he said, adding that it would have no "dictatorial" aspect and that "freedom and justice will be guaranteed to all." The nation's leading ayatollahs would be the guides of the future government, whose officials would be elected by the people, while representatives of all Iranian groups would be eligible to hold seats in Parliament, the ayatollah said.

Asked about recent clases between Shi'ite Muslim and Marxist protesters, he said, "do not forget that we have not yet reached the time of the Islamic government. We are in a revolution and during this troubled period there are always regrettable incidents." "In the republic of tomorrow, such actions will not occur," he added.

Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari affirmed that Iranian Jews were citizens like all others and that their rights would be guaranteed "on condition that there is no collusion between them and Zionism." Regarding press reports that Ayatollah Khomeyni would move to Qom to replace Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, who would go to Tabriz, the religious leader said Ayatollah Khomeyni would come to Qom, perhaps "in 5, 10, or 20 days," but that he himself had no reason to leave the holy city.

GENERAL CITED ON KHOMEYNI'S THEOCRATIC VIEWS

LD051601 Paris LE FIGARO in French 2 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Theirry Desjardins article: "Khomeyni, or the Bulldozer Policy"]

[Excerpt] The soldiers who agreed to answer questions yesterday evening were all outraged by the remarks of this ayatollah, who decreed that everything is illegal but who adds that he can legally appoint a government and, worse still, set up courts. A general officer told me: "That is, moreover, what Khomeyni has always maintained. In his book 'The Mullahs' Reign,' published 17 years ago, he maintained that the Koran was the only law, that nobody but the mullahs could legislate, that public opinion was unimportant and that legislative, executive and judiciary powers should be replaced by the mullahs' power." The same general added: "He has not changed. On the contrary, he wants to sweep away 13 centuries of civilization and take us back to the days of the prophet. He will never accept this."

SHAH INTERVIEWED ON PRESENT REGIME, SITUATION

LD051649 Paris LE FIGARO in French 3-4 Feb 79 p 22 LD

[Freidoune Sahebjah 26 January 'exclusive' interview with shah of Iran in Marrakesh: "Shah in Exile Speaks"]

[Excerpts] A False Accusation

[Question] Are you in contact with the authorities in Tehran? The shah absolutely refuses to discuss politics and Iran. He told his questioners this. However, he is quite prepared to chat:

[Answer] There is a legal government in Iran which is dealing with affairs of state during my absence. This has been so whenever I have left the country previously. There is a Regency Council which has been appointed in accordance with the constitution. There is an army which looks after the maintenance of order. What else can I ask for?

[Question] This is true. Every time the shah and the shahbanu (who has been regent officially since 1966) leave the country together, a Regency Council is appointed. However, this time, circumstances are rather unusual. It has been said that you are not very religious. This is one of the criticisms which your adversaries have leveled at you. The shah smiled shyly:

[Answer] I am profoundly religious. I have been profoundly religious since I was very young, since I was old enough to understand, read and write. It has been said that I am a mystic. This is true. I believe that I know our holy scriptures better than most of my compatriots. Without God I would be nothing. God is the only being whom I fear. (For 50 years Mohammad Reza Pahlavi has prayed twice daily)

This is a false accusation. No, I am being blamed for upsetting the structures of an essentially traditionalist and conservative nation. Perhaps our efforts were too great and too hasty. The majority has not followed. Maybe the great 1974 boom shocked some people and surprised others.

[Question] Over a period of 5 years, purchasing power increased fivefold. Iran became a giant construction site, everybody wanted to profit from the situation, some excesses took place, there was corruption and unscrupulous behavior. Lack of freedom has been mentioned....

[Answer] You have hit on it. All my fellow countrymen are free provided they want to work and live normally. Excesses have always been dangerous in our country. Our long history shows this. Unfortunately, there are always adventurers, people hankering after the good old days who miss the times when slavery was practiced by big landowners, when women were held in bondage and when the people's masses could neither read nor write, since this enabled a small minority to exploit the poor. One Iranian in two can now read (compared with 1 in 10 15 years ago), women are men's equals and manual and office workers are stockholders in their enterprises. And this is only a stage along the development path. Should one stop when the going is so good? I do not think so.

[Question] Is this not also a case of generation gap?

[Answer] Possibly. Our society is experiencing a crisis. It has not accepted this fantastic leap forward.... Perhaps we have moved too fast. However, there are ways to slow down development other than revolution and anarchy.... Is it really necessary to go back to the Middle Ages and the sources of Islam to purify the country, as they say?

[Question] How is the emperor keeping?

[Answer] He is slowly recovering from it all. He needs calm and rest. He was very tired and every day he recovers a little more energy.

[Question] Is Iran very far from your thoughts?

[Answer] Oh no, not at all. Iran lies deep in our hearts. It is our reason for being and our reason for living. We were born there. Our fathers are buried there.

No Settling in United States

[Question] There has been talk of possibly settling in the United States....

[Answer] Who has said this? The press and the media...,certain generally "well-informed" people. Why would I go there? I am very comfortable in this Islamic land, symbol of hospitality and fraternity. I do not say that I will not go off somewhere else one day, but for the time being I am very happy there.

[Question] The shah does not want to join the rest of his family, who have been settled in California since October. He does not want to go to a country for which he was the strongest guarantor in the East for so many years and which has just turned its back on him. Above all, he does not want to be too far from Iran, whose legal sovereign he remains. It is said that your regime is illegal and that the monarchy is illegitimate.

[Answer] In the 1920's my father wanted to turn Iran into a modern republic, in the style of Mustafa Kemal's Turkey. It was the ayatollah of Qom who demanded that Gen Reza Khan proclaim himself king. The texts are there. Where is the illegality?

[Question] Is all the Shi'ite clergy against you?

[Answer] Thank God, no. Among the mullahs, as well as among the people, there is a silent majority which wants to wait and see. Certain persons have a personal score to settle with me. I am sorry that this has taken on such proportions.

[Question] We attempted a final question: Is everything irrevocably lost?

[Answer] Certainly not. Our people are a great people who have a long history behind them. They have known others. Every 25 years we fall victim to a great clash. This time it is a purely Iranian affair, which will be settled by Iranians. The world has forsaken us. Let us therefore wash our dirty linen in private.

NVOI ON KHOMEYNI CONTACTS WITH MILITARY, CHURCH SPEECH, PRC

TA051147 [Editorial Report TA] The (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 3 February carries a commentary which refers to various statements Khomeyni has made since his return to Iran. The commentary says that the "Iranian nation has demonstrated its determination to end the monarchy and to set up a national Islamic republic." After referring to U.S. advisers in Iran, the commentary says that "in the future there will be no place for U.S. advisers in Iran," as was "also stated by His Holiness Ayatollah Khomeyni." The commentary says the ayatollah appealed to the army "to take the people's side." He is reported to have said: "With the blessing of God, disobey the commanders who order you to oppress the people." "Do not bring the punishment of Hell upon you on earth and in eternal life by slaughtering your own brothers. Listen with your hearts to the grief of those mothers and fathers who have lost their children. If you do so you will be glorified both on earth and in Heaven."

The radio in Azerbaijani at 1945 GMT on 3 February carries a commentary scoring "the American imperialism and the shah's despotic regime." The commentary says that "the ousted shah shed the blood of thousands of defenseless people and squandered the nation's wealth." "The treacherous shah, in order to maintain his evil regime, is again prepared to shed the people's blood. The shah, who grabbed the nation's wealth and escaped the country, is a lackey of U.S. imperialism and an enemy of God and the nation."

At 1945 GMT on 4 February the radio carries a commentary saying that "all officers, NCO's and soldiers want the expulsion of all U.S. military personnel and advisers from the Iranian Armed Forces." The commentary says: "Iranian Armed Forces are dominated by foreigners, particularly U.S. imperialists."

It says that "His Holiness Khomeyni has conferred with some military leaders," and that "it is the first time that his holiness has held such contacts." The commentary further says: "Armed forces' patriotic soldiers are opposed to the shah's extinct monarchy, which is subservient to U.S. imperialism, and they regard the proclamation of the national Islamic republic as the only way out of the impasse." It then says that General Huyser is still active in Iran and that "circles close to the army are saying that this representative of the Pentagon holds conferences for hours every day with various army commanders and government officials." The commentary then refers to the "statement" made by Senator Frank Church, apparently to his speech delivered in Palm Beach, Florida, on 1 February, and in this context says that "the Iranian people's national struggle for freedom and independence is having a great effect on the peoples of Saudi Arabia and Morocco."

The radio then carries a commentary scoring the PRC's policy. It says: "The world is aware that the PRC Government is becoming gradually more reactionary and despotic, and is opposing the national independence movement in our country. Not only in Iran but in all parts of the world it is trying to crush the national independence struggles." "After establishing diplomatic relations with the United States, the PRC began to copy the U.S. imperialist policy which opposes freedom." "The PRC leaders are now closer to pro-West countries such as Saudi Arabia, Oman and Bahrain. They have exposed themselves as the ally of U.S. imperialism in this respect in this part of the world. Despite this the PRC leaders unashamedly declare that they support the interests of the nations struggling for their freedom and independence."

NVOI SCORES SHAH, DEFINES AIM OF 'DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION'

TA060846 [Editorial Report TA] The (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 5 February carries two commentaries. The first commentary scores the shah as "the tool of foreigners" and says that "the United States is his real homeland." The commentary says that "fed up with 25 years of dictatorship, the people finally rejected the monarchy." "A national and democratic revolution is underway in our country. The aim of the revolutionary struggle is to get rid of the monarchy and to establish a national republican government as willed by the nation. The nation will continue the struggle with all its power until this aim is achieved."

The second commentary discusses the various stages through which the "revolutionary struggle" is passing. It says: "When a nation with its popular forces embarks on a struggle designed to achieve real change, and when it begins to act in a heroic manner and to make sacrifices for this purpose, the revolutionary movement accelerates and, passing through the lower levels speedily, reaches higher levels." With the participation of large masses and toilers, the revolutionary movement develops and attains its targets more quickly. "In our country the revolutionary movement has now reached that stage. Large masses and toilers are active and various stages of the revolutionary movement are being reached quickly." "The primary aim of the people's struggle is to get rid of despotism and dictatorship. The struggle has taken the form of a democratic and national movement as a result of the ruthless resistance by the shah and his imperialist supporters." Currently the nation is waging a national and democratic struggle in all parts of the country. "The aim of this democratic and national revolution is to destroy the rotten monarchy which is subservient to imperialism. The aim is also to put an end to the exploitation of the country's natural wealth and oil by the imperialists. Only then will the country achieve political and economic independence. Without destroying the imperialist and feudal exploitative system and meeting the democratic demands of the toiling popular masses, this aim cannot be achieved." Workers, toilers, religious bodies and all progressive forces are the loyal supporters of the revolutionary movement. "Now that our country's revolutionary movement has reached higher levels and that achieving the democratic and national revolutionary aims is the issue of the day, the toiling masses' role in the struggle has acquired greater importance."

AFGHANISTAN

FOREIGN MINISTER REMARKS ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN, PAKISTAN

BK031751 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 3 Feb 79 BK

[Hafizollah Amin, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, address to 1 February meeting of intellectuals held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs--read by announcer]

[Excerpt] This morning the vice premier and minister of foreign affairs in his rousing statement at the gathering referred to Afghanistan's foreign policy in these terms: We have a clear-cut foreign policy. We have no desire at all to intervene in the internal affairs of others. Our government is not interested in interfering with the internal affairs of any country in the world. We are deeply devoted to and respect the principles of nonintervention in the affairs of other countries. The 50-year-long history of our friendship with our only fraternal and great neighbor, the USSR, will speak for this statement on our part.

The Soviet Union has never interfered in the internal affairs of our country as proved by the friendly cooperation before and after the Sowr Revolution. Our friendship and cooperation between the two countries are to the benefit of the people of the two countries and the people of the whole world.

Although we are deeply affected by recent events in our friend and fraternal country of Iran, we are deeply interested in the prosperity, progress and security of our Iranian brother, and we wish for the establishment of the social system for the benefit of the people of the fraternal country of Iran, and we have no intention at all to intervene in that country's domestic affair. We feel that the Sowr Revolution was greeted warmly by the people of Iran. We are aware that successes and results of the Sowr Revolution has immensely [word indistinct] Iranian brothers but we have no desire at all to export the revolution. What we expect is that our Iranian brothers may control their destiny in such a manner that they assure the prosperity (?to) the people of Iran. We know quite well that the toiling people of Afghanistan would have hailed the Sowr Revolution. [as heard] Our revolutionary (?regime) has [words indistinct] that the life of the revolution in Afghanistan is becoming brighter every day.

We are interested that our toiling and fraternal Pakistani people may prosper in accordance with their historical desire. We have no enmity or hostility toward Pakistan. On the political side, a difference between us concerns the emotional problem of the Pakhtoon and Baluch brothers. [That] all of our Pakhtoon and Baluch brothers consider the successful Sowr Revolution as their own success, it did not mean that we have committed any sin. Our [word indistinct] order, in accordance with the guidance of our great leader, the president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, is honestly interested in the settlement of the sole political difference between Afghanistan and Pakistan in a spirit of friendship and brotherhood [words indistinct] this is to the benefit of the people of both countries.

Our Pakhtoon and Baluch brothers [words indistinct] most loyal supporters of the Sowr Revolution were thinking independently and fighting and therefore we carry no responsibility in this regard. We do rejoice on the fact that our Pakhtoon and Baluch brothers are [words indistinct] for the people of Afghanistan and [words indistinct] the enemies of the Pakhtoon and Baluch brothers and of the people of Pakistan wrongly interpret the successes of the great Sowr Revolution.

All aggressors and exploiters in the region together with their leaders and agents of imperialism are afraid that as a result of the success of the Sowr Revolution, which is an example for the developing countries, [words indistinct] society in Afghanistan while becoming [words indistinct] society in the world. And it is for the realization of this fact that the forces of the enemies of our people, angry people of the world, coupled with hollow accusation was heard sometime from one radio [words indistinct] complying with the BBC broadcast outside Afghanistan's boundary to (?have) are likely to have their loyalty with the London radio. We can see that the enemies of the people raise their heads sometimes from one country and then from another. The relevant documents, which have come into our hands, show the complicity of all enemies of our people, including the reactionaries, imperialists and extremist leftist in the plot against the successes of our revolution. However, because of our interest in and vote for the development of friendship with all countries of the world, [words indistinct] to reveal these documents to the peoples of the world and had related to our courageous and selfless people to exterminate quickly the enemies at home.

In connection with our foreign policy, it should not be forgotten that historical and old ties between Afghanistan and India are fully clear to our society. The people of Afghanistan and India have the honor that close friendship and ties between them are not new but [words indistinct] old history and the people now are following with interest the development of our relations within it.

The enemies of our homeland level uncalled-for accusation at us. But they dare not place an accusing finger upon any definite action on our part. We regret that by taking advantage of the ignorance of the toiling Muslims in the region, they are creating confusion among the toiling Muslim people and they are trying to use one toiling Muslim [word indistinct]. But they are unaware that our people have seen the practical results of our revolutionary revolution and therefore are not misled by the hollow slogans of the enemies of the revolution. The educational, economic and social systems in our country are also based upon the fact that our people may knowingly understand the healthy revolutionary action.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI RADIO REPORTS BHUTTO DEATH SENTENCE CONFIRMED

BK060815 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The Supreme Court has dismissed appeals by all convicted in the Mohammad Ahmed Khan murder case. Announcing the verdict, Chief Justice Mr Justice S. Anawarul Haq said that as far as appeals by Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Mian Abbas are concerned, the Supreme Court has confirmed by a majority vote the Lahore court decision declaring the guilty and confirmed its [death] sentence.

He said as far as Sufi Ghulam Mustafa, Arshad Iqbal and Rana Ifthikar appeals are concerned, they were dismissed unanimously.

After the announcement of the verdict, the counsel for Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto prayed to the court to issue a stay order for preventing execution of the sentence on the appellant because the appellant wants to file a petition for review of the case.

The chief justice said in this connection that it is not appropriate to issue an order of such a nature on an oral request from the appellant. The chief justice said that such an order will be more appropriate only when a review petition has been filed and admitted for hearing in the court.

Regarding Mr Yahya Bakhtiar's [Bhutto's counsel] apprehension that the authorities might not wait for the time allowed to the appelant to file a review petition, the chief justice said the appellant will have a full 7 days after receiving the Supreme Court verdict notice from the superintendent of the jail to prepare and file a petition against the court's verdict.

The chief justice said that it is clear that the question of carrying out the death sentence does not arise before the 7 days are up and that the appellant has a clear opportunity to decide whether or not to file a review petition. The court also said that before the expiration of this 7-day period, Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto will not be transferred from the Rawalpindi jail.

The Supreme Court began formal hearing of the appeals on 20 May and concluded it on 23 December last year.

At the time of the decision, counsels for all of the convicted were present in the court.

BHUTTO'S WIFE BREAKS OUT OF HOUSE ARREST TO VISIT HIM

BK060957 Hong Kong AFP in English 0950 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Rawalpindi, 6 Feb (AFP)--Begum Nusrat, wife of condemned former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, today broke out of house arrest and drove to visit her husband soon after the Supreme Court confirmed the death sentence against him. Armed police chased her car but she managed to reach the jail where she was allowed to see her husband, sources said. She was then driven back under heavy guard to the Islamabad house to which she was confined yesterday for a month, they added.

As she left the jail, which was cordoned off by armed police, Mrs Bhutto tried to wave to a small crowd by the gates, but a policewoman reportedly forced down her hand.

According to one of her close friends, Mrs Bhutto was manhandled during the morning.

Meanwhile, traffic flowed normally on roads around the jail, which is about 220 yards (metres) from the palatial building that was Mr Bhutto's home when he was premier.

SIND HIGH COURT ORDERS RELEASE OF BHUTTO COUSIN

BK041140 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 4 Feb 79 BK

[Text] A division bench of the Sind High Court today ordered that former federal minister, Mr Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, unless involved in any other case, be released. The court accepted a (?writ) petition filed by him contending that he has the right to an open hearing of his offense of attempting to escape from official custody while returning to prison after his court presentation in July last year.

ALL UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES CLOSED INDEFINITELY

BK051529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Feb 79 BK

[Text] All universities and colleges throughout the country and all schools in Sind and Northwest Frontier Province are closed indefinitely. However, schools in Punjab and the Sibi, (?Quetta) and Mushirabad districts of Baluchistan will remain open.

All examinations set for tomorrow and later have been canceled. New dates of the examinations will be announced later.